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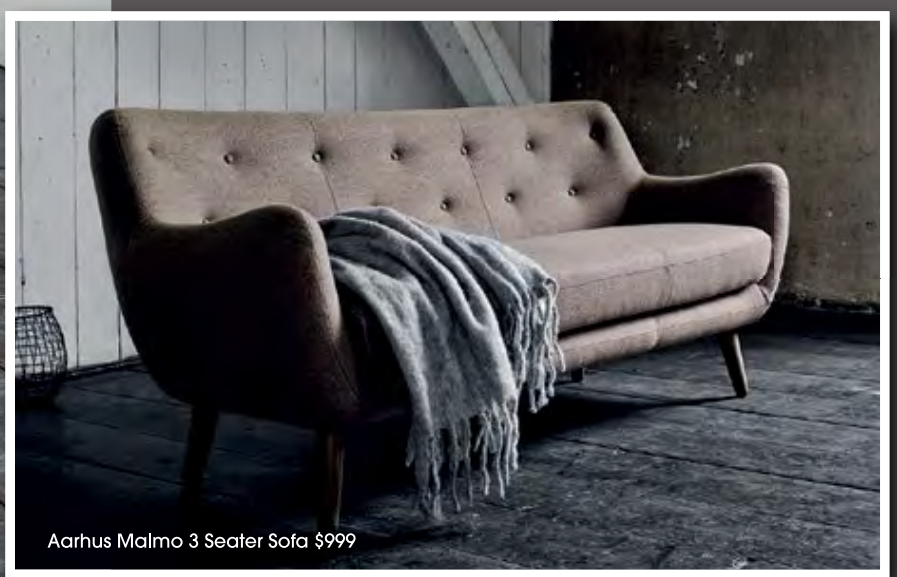

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STYLING Biona Boon
ART DIRECTION Neo Aik Sing
PHOTOGRAPHY Justin Loh
LOCATION Grafunkt

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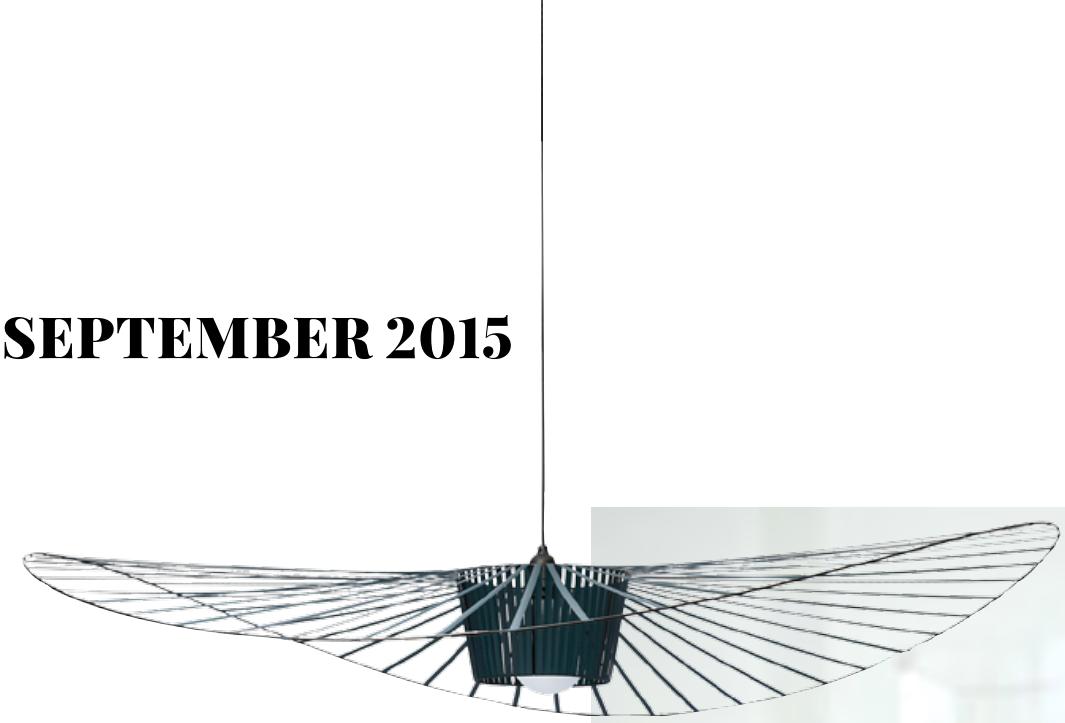

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LIVE LARGE AND PROSPER

Sometimes things seem to fall into place nicely. As I start my new journey with SquareRooms, I am also about to start renovations in my first home.

So when the SR team put our heads together to come up with stories on how we can help you maximise every square centimetre of your home in this issue, I am taking all the tips and advice to heart.

Figuring out how to deck out my very own three-room HDB unit is rather exciting. But it is also daunting. That's why I am grateful for help from interior designers and contractors who have a multitude of space-saving tricks. Hidden storage under the bed? What a great idea! Installing floor-to-ceiling mirrors to create more space? Yes, please – anything to make my 785-square foot flat seem larger.

If you are trying to figure out how to make the most of a small home, you will appreciate that we have packed this issue with ideas and solutions to help you make your space more comfortable. We picked the brains of professional organisers to get inspiration on how you can free up some room at home (page 30), and we scoured the shops for some nifty organising systems to help you keep things neat and tidy (page 54).

We also share some tips and tricks on how you can enlarge a small home (page 34), and round up some compact but powerful household gadgets (page 60). Who says you can't live it up in a small space?

Yours truly,

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SIX-SIDED SPECTACLE

Ideal for bathrooms and kitchens because of its durability and resistance to wear, the new WOW tiles by Stone & Ceramic Warehouse will add textural interest and drama to any interior. We love the three-dimensional hexagon versions. When placed together, the result is a timeless honeycomb pattern on your walls. Thanks to their 3D forms, the ceramic tiles produce intriguing shadows and depth unlike any other wall coverings.

For more information, visit www.stoneandceramicwarehouse.co.uk

LIGHT SHOW

Diagora Design has come up with a lamp that takes inspiration from optical illusion, the Necker Cube. Named Necky, the ceiling cum wall light is designed in the shape of a cube with only three of the six sides visible. It is made from a white, elasticised fabric that covers a structure fashioned from a metal rod painted white. It can be used individually or as part of a modular group to create a hexagonal light pattern on the wall.

For more information, visit www.axolight.it

Curvy Beauty

Gorgeous curves define Italian designer Luca Nichetto's new Vivien chair. A sculptural piece featuring traditional joinery, it is constructed using a combination of computer numerically controlled technology and hand carving methods. Classic and elegant, its arms form a loop that runs around the rear to create a space between the back and seat.

For more information, visit www.delaespada.com

DEFY GRAVITY

We've seen plenty of speakers in our time, but never one quite like this. The sleek Helium Levitate has no wires or fans attached to it. Using an invisible cloud of magnetic force, it floats and spins above its base while playing music through a 3-W speaker. Because of its magnetism, it can be attached to anything metal.

For more information, visit www.red5.co.uk

Weaving Heritage

The Afghan Folklore rugs by Spanish designer Jaime Hayon for NODUS are inspired by the vibrant Afghan culture. "I incorporated into the design elements such as beautiful dresses with traditional patterns and a symphony of instruments, and paired them together with my own whimsical style," says Jaime. Made from wool, each piece is hand knotted in the Tibetan knot style following the tapestry techniques of Afghan artisans.

For more information, visit www.nodusrug.it

SOFT TOUCH

There's nothing like extra cushions to make your sleeping experience that much more comfortable. Bonaldo has released a new single bed in their 2015 catalogue called Picabia, which features a sideboard made from a fun combination of cushions in different shapes and sizes. For extra quirkiness, choose to customise the fabrics in different colours and patterns.

For more information, visit www.bonaldo.it

SCANDI SPLENDOUR

Can't get enough of the Scandinavian style? The Aarhus range of sofas from Denmark should be right up your alley. Designed by Harvey Norman's exclusive designer Bertil Stam, there are 10 models in the collection, ranging from the comfy and curvy Bergen to the classic Malmo. The models are available as 3-seaters, 2-seaters, chairs, stools, storage ottomans and L-shaped sofas. With 50 fabric choices, you can customise them to fit any interior setting.

Available at Harvey Norman Superstore @ Millenia Walk, #02-56 to 62, tel: 6311 9988

Exotic Emporium

From now till 20 September, concept store Edit Lifestyle will be hosting a Turkish Delight pop-up bazaar in its premises. The shopping installation will feature a collection of artisanal wares such as carpets, hand-tooled metal bowls, Iznik ceramics, opulent tea wares and sterling silverware, which are sourced from shops known only to the locals. There will also be pieces from designer lifestyle Turkish brands like Haremlique homeware, ARMAGGAN objet d'art, Dhoku organic carpets and Lokum home and bath products.

Located at 137/139 Tanglin Road Tudor Court, tel: 6836 5686, www.editlifestyle.com

BEST OF BRITISH

Prominent UK brand John Lewis has finally arrived on our shores! The retailer has partnered exclusively with Robinsons to feature a collection of over 500 home products including bed, bath, tableware and other home accessories. Located within Robinson stores in a shop-in-shop format, products range from $45 for an Egyptian bath towel to $399 for a luxurious bedspread.

Available at all Robinson department stores at Robinsons The Heeren Level 5, Robinsons Raffles City Level 3 and Robinsons Jem Level 4

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Vintage Elegance

One of the latest introductions to the Timothy Oulton collection for 2015 is the Vagabond leather finish. To create an authentic distressed look and well-worn feel, the material is rigorously treated by hand over and over again, giving it a deep burnished quality and sheen. Inspired by century-old leather-bound books in British libraries, the idea behind Vagabond is that time can be beautiful.

Available on selected chairs at Timothy Oulton at CuriO, 14C Dempsey Road, tel: 6479 7619. For more information, visit www.timothyoulton.com

MAKING SCENTS

Peotree's The Garden City collection of home fragrances smells like nature and the great outdoors. There are three scents: Orchard, Rainforest and Island Bouquet, all of which were concocted by master perfumer Martin Koh. His muse? Singapore's tropical foliage. We love the refreshing notes of Rainforest, which features the fruity notes of apples and melons and smells like the air after a rain shower.

Available at HomesToLife pop-up stores at 112 Katong (#03-04/05) and Westgate (#01-31)

YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE

Get inspired by kikki.K's new Make Your Mark Collection, which comprises travel journals, planners, cards and wrapping paper. Decked out in fun and bright hues like neon orange and electric blue, the stationery range shouts out motivating taglines like "Dream it, Do it, Live it, Love it" and "A toast to you". Hand-illustrated dots and dashes are drawn over vibrant backgrounds, adding a touch of whimsy to the series.

Available at ION Orchard #B2-44-46, tel: 6509 3107, www.kikki-k.com

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COSY *hideouts*

Wish to escape the hustle and bustle of the city? Take five at these hidden gems located at the outskirts of the downtown core

TEXT Joseph Lim

TIN HILL SOCIAL

IF YOU THOUGHT ALL restaurants had to benefit from strong footfall, think again. Tin Hill Social's idyllic location is nestled in a lush, tranquil area far away from the madding crowd. The establishment is housed in two large repurposed barns that offer an expansive outdoor area. Popular with a young and discerning type, it offers large format dishes for communal dining and a hearty weekend brunch. Its rustic charm is attributed to its exposed roof beams, cement flooring, long wooden benches, banquet seating and a combination of loose furniture.

Here, the restaurant's repertoire of western food is represented by signature dishes via a hay-smoking process. Don't miss out on the hay smoked pork ribs where its tenderness is derived via sous-vide cooking. Even the hefty 600g beef T-bone steak is succulent with a perfectly charred outer sear. Try their Baked Gypsy Eggs where a dish of two eggs – one cooked sunny-side up with roasted potatoes and baked in tomato sauce while another is cooked in house-made ciabatta. Even sweet dishes get hay-infused pampering especially the firm but slightly wobbly panna cotta where the cream is hay-infused. Wash away the decadence with Pimm's O'Clock where the tipple is served in a pitcher consisting of Pimm's liqueur and zesty mixed fruit that's a perfect palate cleanser.

Baked Gypsy Eggs

Tin Hill Social
100 Turf Club Road,
Horse City
tel: 6466 0966
www.tinhillsocial.com

I SCREAM

STUMBLING INTO AN Instagram-worthy cafe in sleepy Bedok North is quite a sweet surprise especially when one needs to cool down in this scorching weather. Done up in a modern industrial theme – think Edison light bulbs, wood-and-metal chairs and cement flooring – the vibe it conveys screams hipster chic.

The establishment's store front – a decorative white scooter with a sidecar – is key in attracting curious stares that convert into satisfied customers. The pop-inspired lightbulb signboard is another attractive feature in enticing more eyeballs around the neighbourhood. Step into the store and the revolving ice-cream display will draw your eye to it. On the menu, i Scream offers a wide array of homemade frozen confections namely their signature ice-cream flavours such as wild berries, hazelnut, triple chocolate and vanilla.

There are of course hard-to-resist waffles topped with flavours chosen from the revolving ice-cream display. Sorbet and gelato aficionados can also sample many of their beloved fruity flavours such as lychee, pomelo, passion fruit or raspberries. Don't leave the store without trying their Korean Bingsu – likened to our ice kachang. This tasty and beautifully presented dish is plumped up with premium ingredients, shaved ice, mango, red beans and mini marshmallows.

i Scream
Bedok North Ave 4
Block 89 #01-109
www.facebook.com/iScreamSG

TO-GATHER CAFÉ

SINGAPORE WILL not be in short supply of hipster cafes, and despite Bedok's sleepy, heartland vibe, this eastern district is witnessing a slew of hipster-style cafes sprouting up.

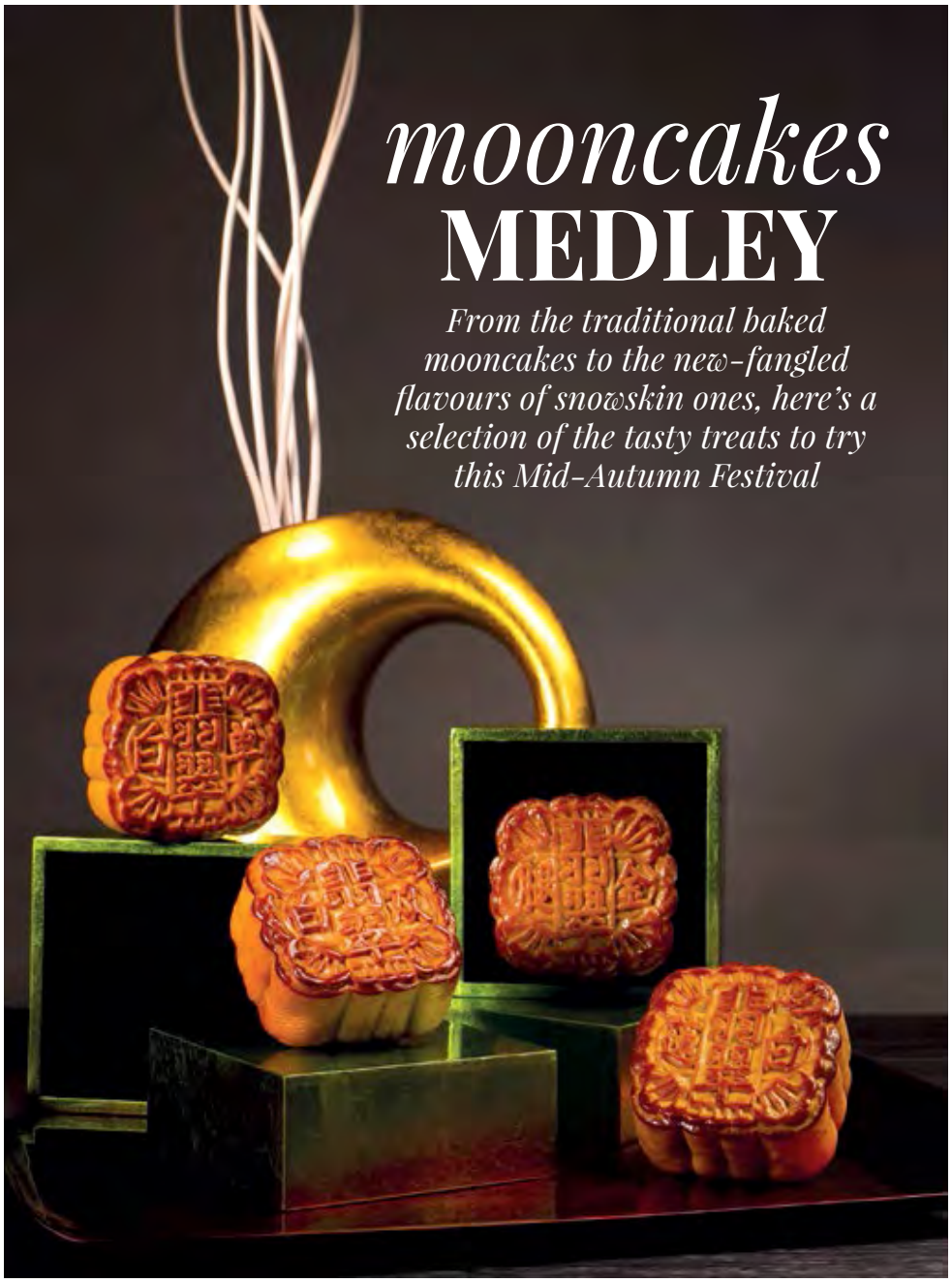
To-gather Café is one such outfit that draws in people by the droves whether for lunch or dinner. The cheery interiors are lit up by coloured "post-it" notes that decorate a metal-grille partition. They are dotted by positive comments from patrons both local and overseas.

Tolix-inspired chairs exude an industrial charm while Tom Dixon-inspired pendant lights illuminate the space. Offering both banquet and outdoor seating, diners can tuck into best-sellers like pork cordon bleu or rib-eye steak. Homemade brownies and chocolate lava cake are best to end any meal and these two dishes won't disappoint in flavour and texture. Since opening, the store has expanded to its adjacent unit to accommodate its booming popularity.

Japanese salad with seafood

Weekends are usually packed with groups of families tucking into dinner which happens to be their busiest meal time.

To-gather Café
Bedok North Ave 4
Block 84 #01-25/27
tel: 6445 1011
www.togathercafe.com.sg



mooncakes MEDLEY

From the traditional baked mooncakes to the new-fangled flavours of snowskin ones, here's a selection of the tasty treats to try this Mid-Autumn Festival

Keeping With Tradition

Crystal Jade's repertoire of baked mooncakes has been a firm favourite with its loyal following. And it's no wonder; these traditional treats come in a thin golden-brown and moist pastry skin that wraps around a generous filling of white lotus paste. For the health conscious, you'll be pleased to know that the filling has a lower sugar content so you can indulge without the guilt. They have single and double yolk options. If you like a bit more texture in your mooncakes, opt for the nutty melon seed version or the mixed nuts and ham variety, which features Jinhua ham (dry-cured ham) with nuts like sesame seeds and almonds.

Available at all Crystal Jade outlets. For online orders, visit www.crystaljade.com

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW

If you love trying out new mooncake flavours, check out Xin Cuisine Chinese Restaurant's two new snowskin creations available at Holiday Inn. The purple sweet potato with macadamia nuts is sweet and light, although we prefer the rich coffee white lotus seed paste with rum and raisin chocolate. It's not all new; there are also old favourites on the list, including the ultra-decadent Peranakan durian snowskin mooncake, which is enveloped in a gorgeous soft blue skin naturally coloured using blue pea flower.

Available at Holiday Inn's lobby and various offsite locations. For online orders, call Xin Cuisine at 6731 7173 or visit www.singaporeatrium.holidayinn.com/festive

ICY DELIGHTS

To celebrate Singapore's Golden Jubilee, Swensen's has launched the SG50 Moon Gems ice-cream mooncakes. The six varieties are each embossed with a Merlion emblem, and they come in flavours that celebrate the local palate of Singapore. We love Crunchy Milo for its familiar flavours – a delicious combination of malt, marshmallows and almonds – that bring us back to our school days. Lychee Dreams is a welcome treat in our tropical weather, while Sticky Chewy Chocolate is a perennial favourite.

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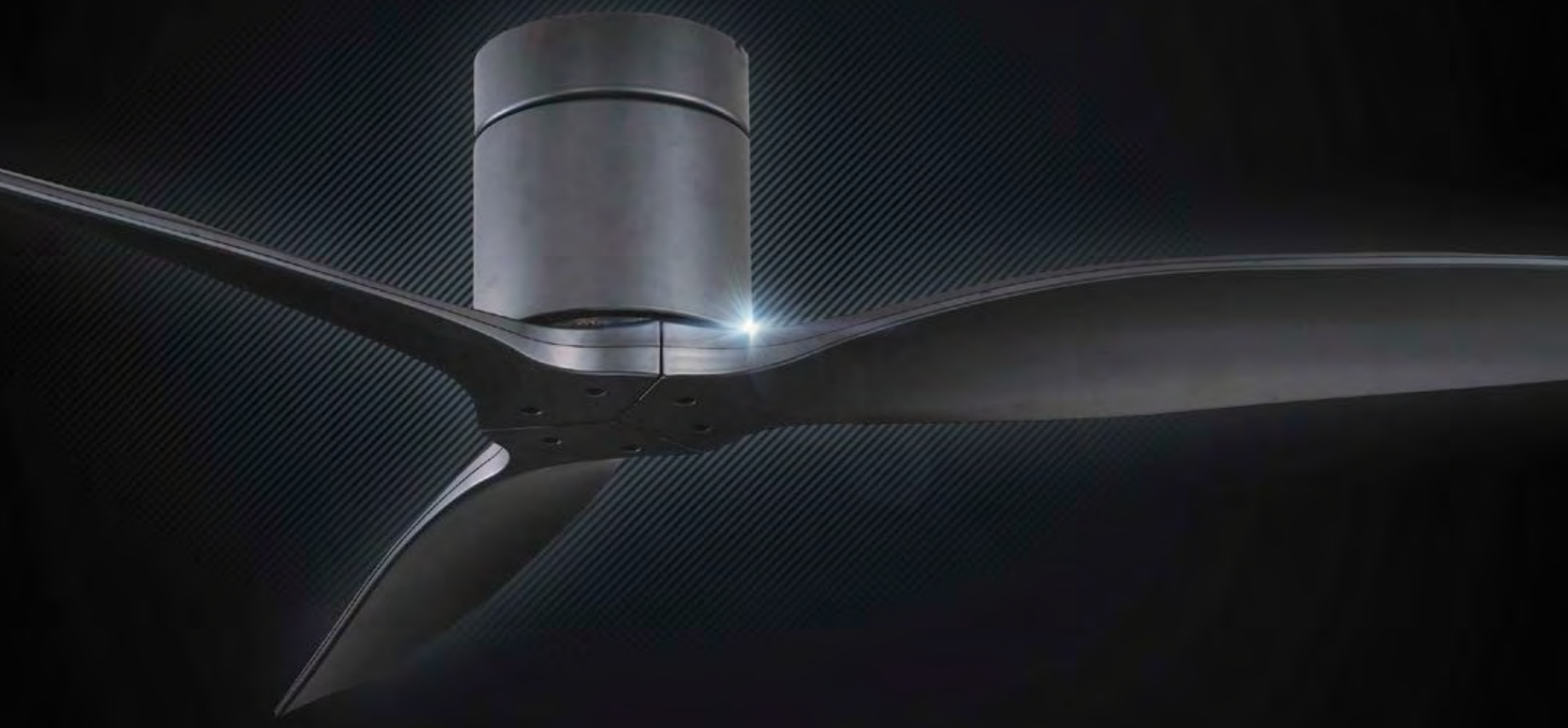

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SPIN

golden RULE

A classic colour combination gets a modern update with unexpected flourishes

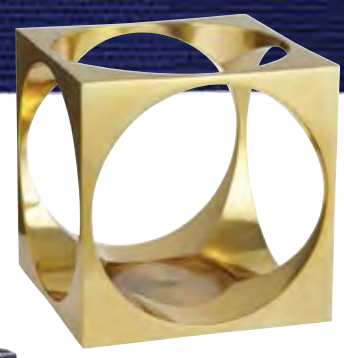
TEXT & COORDINATION
Jolene Limuco

SHARRI RUG
$499 at Castlery

GROSSMAN GRASHOPA TABLE LAMP BY GUBI
$1,404 at Dream

GOLD FOIL NOTEBOOK
$26 (£12) at Etsy

FLOS GUN TABLE LAMP BY PHILIPPE STARCK
price on application at Space Furniture



HOLE IN THE WALL CANDLE HOLDER
$79.95 at CB2

GOLD PIG BOOKEND
$58.95 for a set of two at CB2

ALCHEMY SHINY BRASS QUEEN BED
$1,169 (order upon request) at CB2

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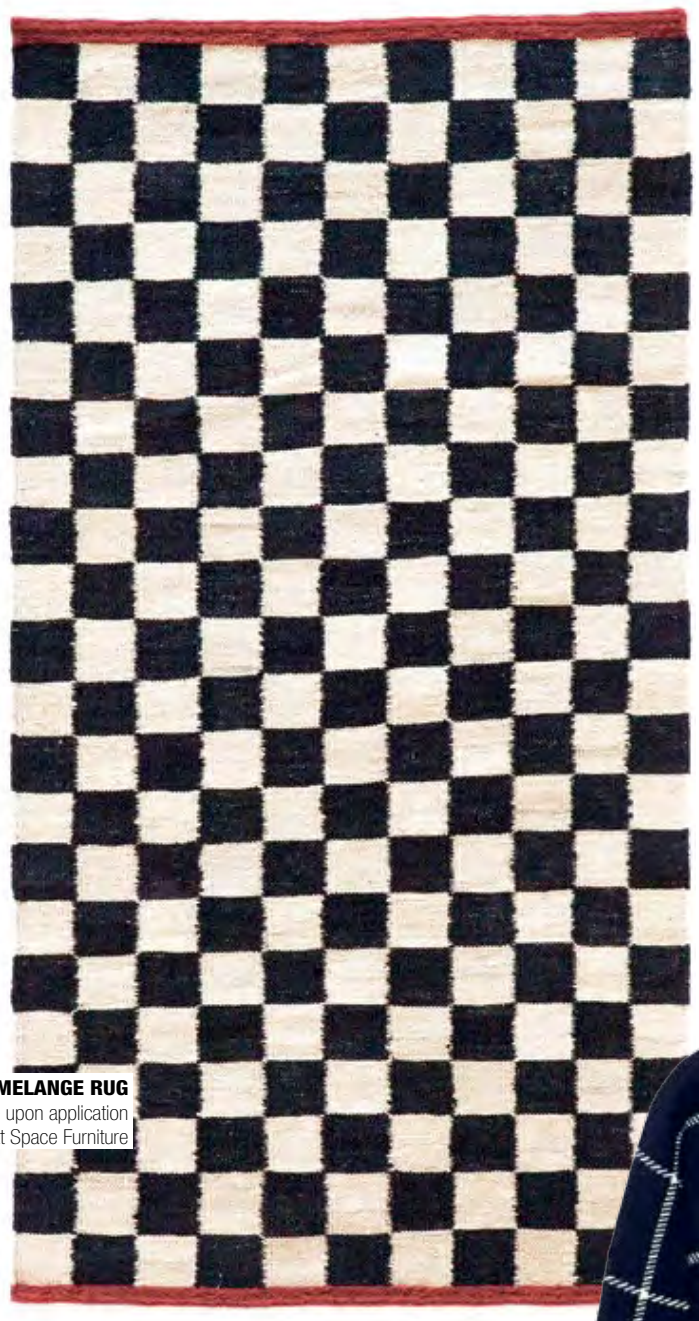


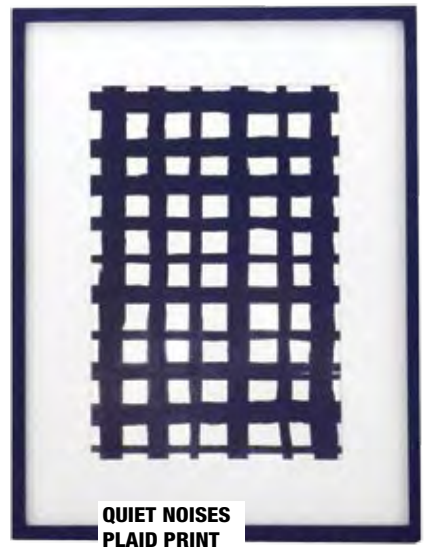
MELANGE RUG
price upon application
at Space Furniture

SANCAL VICHY
DINING TABLE
$5,508 at Dream

checks PLEASE

Updates given to a timeless pattern make it appropriate for contemporary tastes

TEXT & COORDINATION
Jolene Limuco



QUIET NOISES
PLAID PRINT
$25 at Naiise

MAJE WOOL-BLEND SWEATER
$437 (US$310) at Net-a-Porter

BLUE HAND
LOOMED CUSHION
$119.30 (US$85) at Jasper and
Eve (www.jasperandeve.com)

PROENZA SCHOULER
ESPADRILLES
$847 (US$601) at
Net-a-Porter

HIROMATSU
KID'S CHAIR
price on application at atomi

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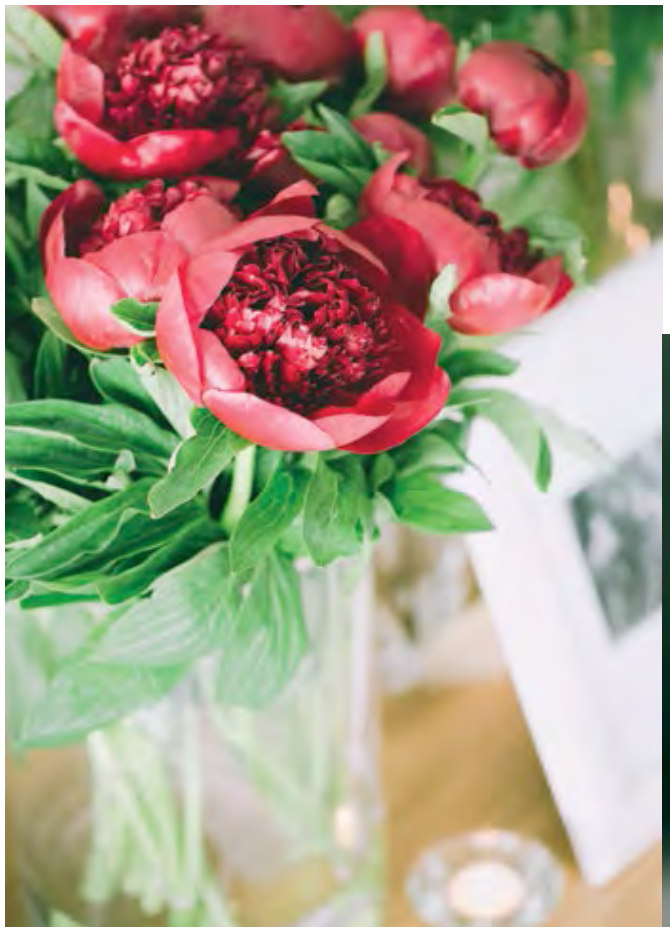


You see a juxtaposition of masculinity and femininity in the interiors.

CRAFT *culture*

Pick up a skill or two while you shop at these trendy retailers that also host craft workshops in their premises

TEXT Ho Pei Ying

Floral craft classes are taught by the founders Lelian Chew, Deborah Tan and Peony Tang.

The Floral Atelier

40 Eng Hoon Street, tel: 8869 2830, www.thefloralatelier.co

Floral enthusiasts, there's a new couture floral boutique in town and it is offering a multitude of workshops that teaches specific technical skills which professional florists employ. Named The Floral Atelier, the store is the dedicated floral and decor arm of The Wedding Atelier, a Hong Kong-based event planning boutique for luxury weddings and personal celebrations.

The design of the retail and workspace sees a mix of cement surfaces, ceramic tiled flooring, industrial light fixtures and wooden and steel furnishings. Neutral tones provide the perfect backdrop for the bright blooms, which are sourced from all over the world. And inspiring mood boards around the store help to visually communicate the retail catalogue to their customers.

All the floral classes are taught by the founders, Lelian Chew, Deborah Tan and Peony Tang, who are trained in FlowerSchool New York. Their classes teach a great number of floral artistry skills, including learning how to create centrepieces, hand-tied bouquets, floral crowns, tall arrangements and floral garlands. There are also workshops on table styling.

But you don't just get to work with your hands, because you also get to learn the theories behind floral arrangement. The sessions, each typically lasting 2.5 hours, also cover design concepts such as colour, size, proportion and balance; how to mix different types of flowers and textures together; how to choose the right types of flowers to fit an occasion and season; and flower care techniques to condition and hydrate blooms and stems for longevity.

PHOTOS by Kelly Fan of Studiokel

The General Company

150A Tyrwhitt Road, tel: 8444 5589,
www.thegeneralco.sg

Established in 2012, The General Company (TGC) was one of the forerunners for hosting craft workshops in their premises before it became trendy to do so. It also stocks design-forward and handcrafted goods, mainly carrying labels with a unique brand story.

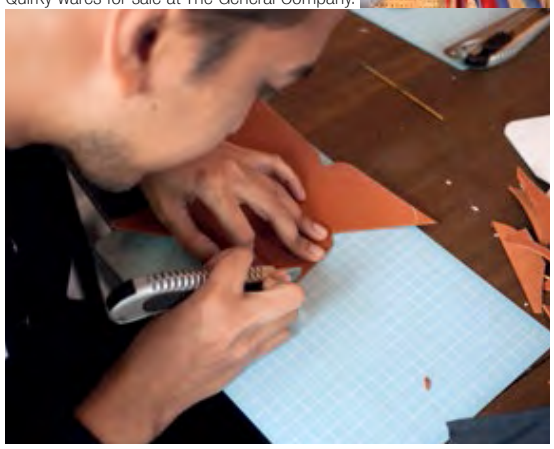
The insides of TGC feels a lot like a hardware store – fitting since the shop is located in the gritty 'hood of Jalan Besar, which is surrounded by suppliers selling raw industrial materials. "Being close to raw materials and suppliers helps us to create better," claims creative director Colin Chen.

Tall wood and steel racks – made possible because of the high ceiling – lend a utilitarian vibe to the space, juxtaposing nicely with the daylight coming in from nearby windows. A lattice structure, previously the front grille doors of a retail store in town, was salvaged and repurposed as a shelf. In support of craftsmanship, the smaller furnishings were mostly handmade; the founders cast concrete lamps, painted old storage trunks and refurbished old wine crates.

Perhaps the most eye-catching thing here is the tool board. "Traditional tool boxes are messy in my opinion, and it's hard to find tools when we really want them. So we custom made our own tool board to create a better visual of all the tools and equipment we use for our workshops and operations," Colin explains.

Their workshops are designed for individuals who wish to better their appreciation for the different crafts. Popular offerings include leather crafts, and this September, there will be classes on how to create leather wallets and small bags. Other workshops to be held this month include bespoke shoemaking, carpentry to build wooden drawer boxes, and printmaking.

Quirky wares for sale at The General Company.

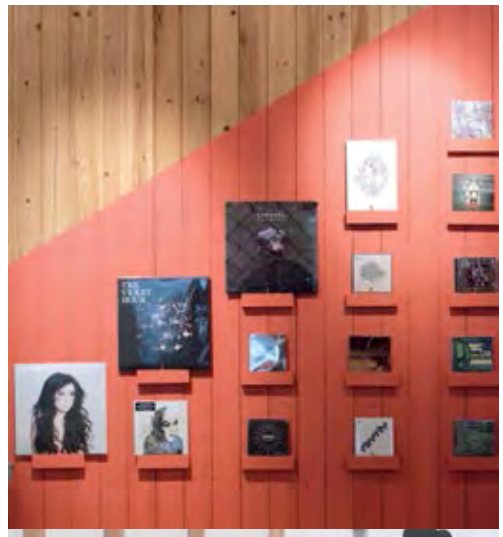


The workshop space is situated in the middle of the retail shop.

The leather craft workshops are one of their more popular offerings.

PHOTOS courtesy of The General Company

Peranakan tiles bring about a Singaporean flavour to the space.



Naiise has incorporated many design details to the existing furnishings to better reflect their branding.

Naiise@Central

6 Eu Tong Sen Street, Central #02-23,
www.naiise.com

Past workshops held at Naiise@Central.

If you still haven't heard about Naiise, it's high time to get acquainted with the brand. Since 2013, they've established an online and offline presence through their web store and various pop-ups, and their first brick-and-mortar outlet was set up at Westgate earlier this year. They've since expanded with a second store at Wheelock Place and a third one at Clarke Quay Central. Naiise carries a wide collection of local and international brands (over 500!), ranging from homeware and furniture to fashion and food products.

Naiise@Central is their largest physical store to date, spanning a floor area of over 6,000 square feet so there's plenty to discover and see. It takes up the space previously occupied by Goods of Desire, a Hong Kong-based lifestyle brand. To save cost, some of the original furnishings were retained, including the iconic red lampshades fronting the entrance. Nonetheless, Naiise has incorporated new design features that better reflect their branding such as fun graphic prints on the surfaces, and a wall of infographics illustrating the brand's business journey. Pay attention to certain parts of the floor because some are covered in vibrant Peranakan tiles, giving the space an added local flavour.

There are a lot of interactive elements here to engage the shopper as well: a dresser table to sample skincare products, a section comprising cement mixtures to learn and understand the process of creating concrete lamps, and a DIY station where you get to personalise your own gifts.

The store has a dedicated space for weekend workshops, which is squirreled away at a quiet corner away from the main retail section. This month, look out for macramé, tea blending, clay macarons, linocut and marbling, basic calligraphy, and mini planter classes taught by the makers from their pool of suppliers.

PHOTOS courtesy of Naiise

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KHIND
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GET *sorted*

They fix your messy house and help manage your life. We glean home keeping tips from these professional organisers and find out who they are outside of their jobs

TEXT Ho Pei Ying
PHOTOS COURTESY OF Eri Kobayashi, Nathalie Ricaud and Haw-San Au-Yong

ERI KOBAYASHI

Organized Life and Space
www.organizedlifespace.com

Trapped in a situationally disorganised state after giving birth to her daughter, Eri made the decision to get out of her disorderly life after being inspired by a fashion story on closet organisation.

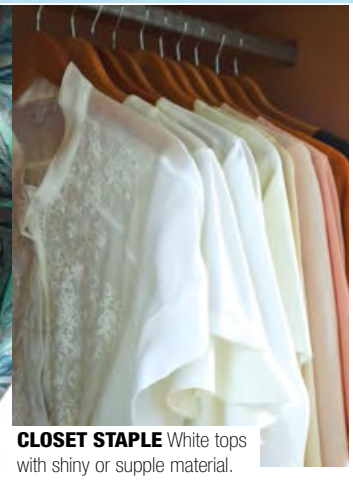
IS THROWING AWAY THINGS THE RIGHT WAY TO DECLUTTER? I never ask my clients to throw things away. I've seen many people who've chucked things out but come back saying they've regretted their decision and then buying back what they threw. It's important to understand yourself well when organising.

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE CAUSE OF DISORDERLY HOMES TODAY? We are constantly receiving information, whether consciously or subconsciously, asking us to buy products. When you don't have a marker for choosing what to buy or not to buy, it becomes easy to overload your space with things.

DISHING UP DISHES The native-born Japanese cooks Japanese cuisine for her family on a daily basis.

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT Good quality linens!

LASTEST PURCHASE A deep green silk skirt found in Japan.



CLOSET STAPLE White tops with shiny or supple material.

PARENTS HIRE YOU TO HELP ORGANISE THEIR KIDS' SPACES. HOW IS THAT DIFFERENT? The approach is the same as working with spaces for adults, which is to find out their priorities. For instance, if a parent wishes to encourage their child's development in motor skills or colour scheme, I'd arrange stationery within the child's proximity without disturbing the home decor. If they wish to teach their child to tidy up his or her belongings, I'd propose a suitable organising system that considers the child's age, preference and behavioural pattern.

SHOPPING HAUNTS Muji or IKEA for functional pieces.

DREAM GETAWAYS A camel ride in the Middle East, tea ceremony in Ethiopia, or doing a photo shoot at Uyuni salt lake in Bolivia.

HAW-SAN AU-YONG

Edits Inc.

www.edits-inc.com

Previously working in a logistics and supply chain industry, San – as she likes to be called – started Edits Inc. because she wanted to use her skills to benefit more people. Services they provide include full home makeovers or layout and storage plans.

WHEN IS IT TIME TO HIRE A PROFESSIONAL ORGANISER? When a person has tried to get organised on his or her own many times, but it always becomes disorganised days later; when life circumstances change; or when a person has undergone psychological counselling or psychiatric treatment and is finally ready to embrace a new phase in life.

ORGANISING MYTH People think they need more storage space. But the more storage you have, the more you'll keep. More storage doesn't mean things will get organised automatically.

TIPS FOR ORGANISING IN THE KITCHEN?

- Keep your countertops as empty as possible. Don't use it for storage.
- Pantry baskets keep your cupboards and drawers in check. Or hang them on your wall to plant herbs or hold vegetables.

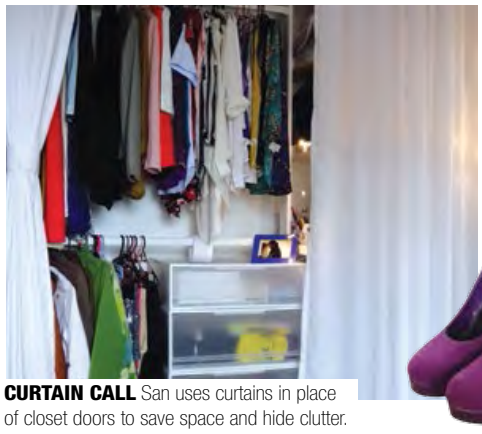
INSIDE SOLUTION A make-up drawer gets organised with drawer inserts.

- Store things in zones so you don't have to run around when cooking or cleaning up.

CAREER HIGHLIGHT We once helped a divorced mum-of-one who just came out of a series of challenging family situations and health troubles to conquer the past and create a room where she could dress up and feel beautiful in during the mornings, and relax in after a long day at work.

MAKE-UP ESSENTIAL Double eyelid tape – my photos finally have eyes!

ALTERNATIVE LIFE If I weren't a professional organiser, I'd probably be setting up warehousing and manufacturing operations since I enjoy being hands-on and doing down-and-dirty work.



CURTAIN CALL San uses curtains in place of closet doors to save space and hide clutter.

HOT HEELS This platform wedge adds a pop of colour to brighten her day.

NATHALIE RICAUD

Get Organised & Beyond

www.getorganisedandbeyond.com

Nathalie's love for organising began when she was 11, and she carried it through her professional life by embracing a career in logistics management. Dissatisfied with the lack of personal element in her job however, she eventually became a professional organiser and started Get Organised & Beyond in 2013.

WHICH PART OF THE HOME SHOULD WE START ORGANISING FIRST? There is no right place to start; everyone's different. My advice is to start in an area that will be the easiest for you to tackle, with items that are less emotional in nature and with which you won't face a dilemma to part with. The refrigerator is a good example of this.

WHAT ARE SOME ORGANISING MISTAKES PEOPLE TEND TO MAKE? Waiting for the right time (it never is), aiming for perfection, starting without a vision or goal, shopping first and organising second, and not involving the rest of the household.

EVERY ROOM NEEDS… only things that we use or love. Do yourself a favour and get rid of the rest.

BUCKET LIST Volunteer in an association and sponsor a child, get my 3rd dan in taekwondo, take cooking lessons, and climb a mountain.

TRADE SECRETS She suggests using containers and boxes without lids so that no time is wasted removing and putting the lid back on.

PARK *life*

With nature at its doorstep and ecologically friendly features, Eco Sanctuary is a private oasis that feels far away from the madding crowd

TEXT Jolene Limuco **PHOTOS** S P Setia

> *"Eco Sanctuary is built to complement the surrounding natural environment. In fact, it is designed and carefully constructed to minimise destruction towards the natural and beautiful terrain."*
>
> ***S P Setia International (S) Pte Ltd***

Living in urban Singapore, it is sometimes hard to imagine being close to nature. Our landscape is, after all, dotted with high-rises and concrete structures. However, a new condominium to be completed next year will allow homeowners to escape to a more idyllic place. Called Eco Sanctuary, the three-tower development located along Chestnut Avenue is sited right next to verdant Zhenghua Park. In fact, it is connected to the green space directly via manicured pathways, giving residents direct access to a lushly landscaped zone near the picturesque Upper Peirce Reservoir.

ECO-FRIENDLY FEATURES

The development's entire landscape has been specifically designed to integrate into the adjacent Zhenghua Park and Cheng Hua Garden. To take advantage of the tranquil environment, units in each tower have been carefully positioned to receive maximum views from the surroundings. In fact, homes here are designed with ceilings that measure between 3.4m and 4.8m, higher than similar developments in its class to allow ample ventilation to flow into the living spaces while injecting a sense of spaciousness.

Eco Sanctuary will be built to blend into the pristine environment. Ecologically friendly considerations have also been incorporated into site planning and layout, which uses an undulating terrain to minimise the cut-and-fill impact on the ground.

Taking a leaf from the property's surroundings, architects ADDP Architects designed the estate to mimic

PROPERTY NAME
Eco Sanctuary

DEVELOPER
S P Setia International (S) Pte Ltd

LOCATION
Chestnut Avenue

ESTIMATED TOP DATE
Q2 2016

TENURE
99-year leasehold

NUMBER OF UNITS
483

SIZE (SQUARE FEET)
From 506 to 656

nature. The facades of the towers, for instance, are based on the hexagonal shape of a beehive. This feature not only borrows the symmetry from nature, it also serves as a way to shade direct sunlight in passive architecture. This design philosophy has been conceptualised in accordance to the BCA Green Mark Platinum Standard, which is Singapore's highest accolade for environment design, performance and sustainability in property development.

In addition, the recreation hub, called the Island Club, has been designed to emulate a chrysalis. The architectural concept not only looks stunning, it also harnesses wind from the surroundings to generate a pleasant natural airflow. Residents also have plenty of spaces to choose from to unwind. These include a lap pool, leisure pool, spa oasis, butterfly trail, meditation deck and various sky clubs that allow homeowners to entertain while basking in the splendour of nature.

CONNECTIVITY AND AMENITIES

Living close to nature doesn't mean that residents at Eco Sanctuary are far from amenities and facilities. Nearby shopping zones include Bukit Panjang Plaza, The Rail Mall and Junction 10. Prestigious schools such as Methodist Girls' School, NUS High School and Hwa Chong Institution are a short commute away.

In terms of connectivity, Eco Sanctuary is located near the soon-to-be completed Hill View and Cashew MRT stations on the Downton Line. The best bit, however, has to be the property's location near one of the largest green spaces in Singapore. Being close to the Central Water Catchment Area means that residents can easily escape the hustle and bustle of the city.

RIGHT SITE

While it may sound counterintuitive, placing furniture away from the wall creates the illusion of spaciousness. So if you have a small space to work with, place standalone furniture a few centimetres away from the wall. In a similar vein, furniture with exposed legs – as opposed to those with solid bases – can make a space seem more open too. This is because they seem to "float" in a room, contributing to a sense of spaciousness.

Photo courtesy of Cranmore Home

MORE SPACE, NOW

Create a bigger home with these space enlarging tips and tricks

TEXT Jolene Limuco

There's no escaping the fact that as residents of land-scarce Singapore, most of us live in apartments. The latest numbers released by the Department of Statistics Singapore indicated that 80.4 per cent of Singapore's resident population live in HDB flats. Add the number of residents living in condominiums and other private apartments and the percentage of the population living in small homes is close to 94 per cent.

Owning a small space does not mean that living standards should be compromised. In fact, Singaporeans have embraced apartment living by taking pride in decking out our private spaces beautifully. While in other countries the tiny house movement has only started to gain momentum, Singapore residents don't have much choice when it comes to the square footage of our homes.

That said there are plenty of ways to make a home comfortable and feel spacious. From using the right colour palette to clever ways in positioning furniture, here are some tips and tricks in decorating and furnishing a home to make the most of every centimetre.

BREATHING SPACE
Positioning furniture away from the wall tricks the eye into thinking that there is more space in a room. Doing this creates some "breathing space" between items, making a room seem airier.

This mid-century design has the ideal proportions for a small living room thanks to streamlined yet ample seating paired with exposed legs to make it seem like it is "floating".
William Sofa, $1,299, from Castlery

Design by 2Form Interior Design

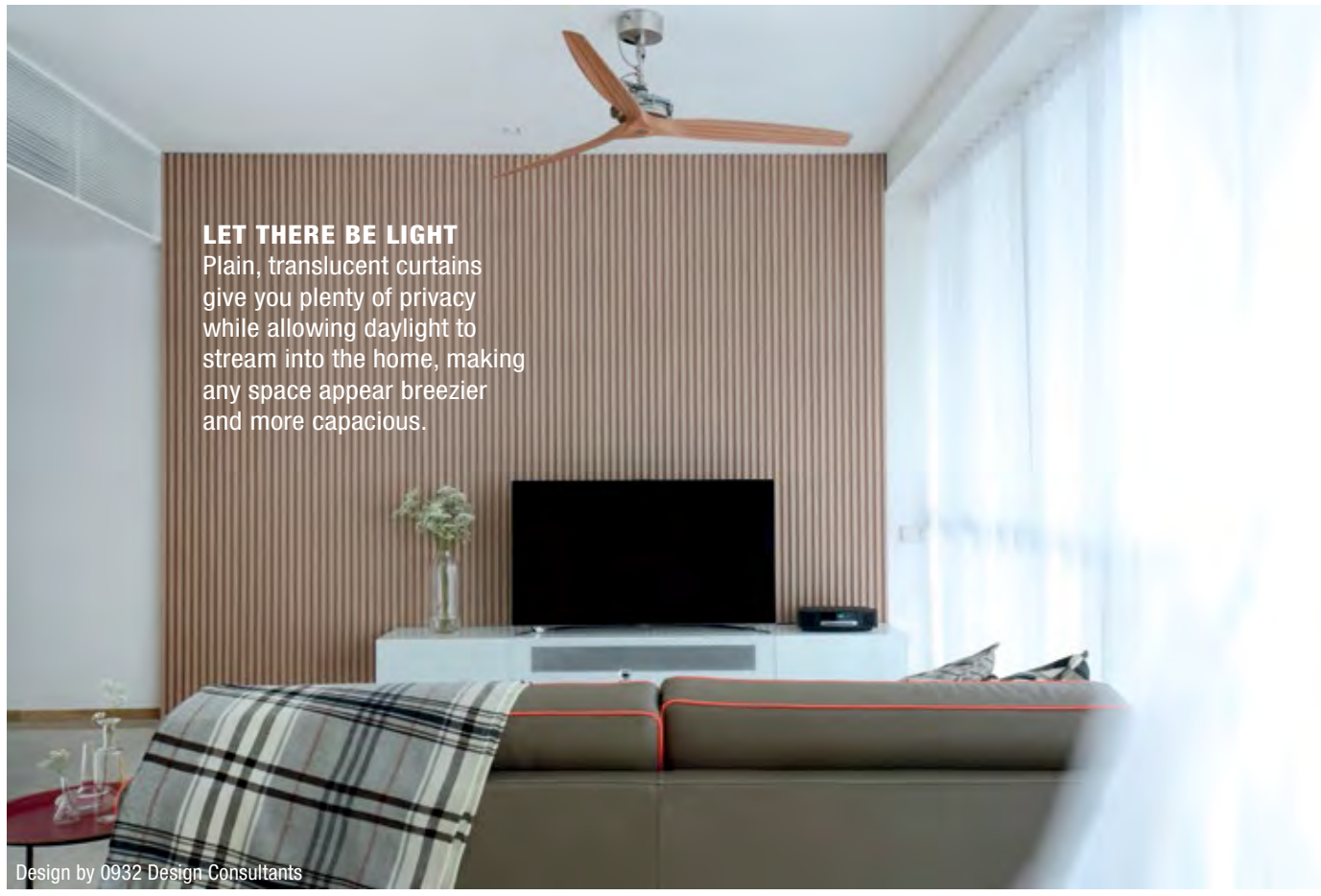
SLIM SHADES
Neutral-hued roman blinds are a great alternative to curtains because they take up less space thanks to their linear structure. They can also be adjusted to let in optimum light while providing privacy.

You can always brighten to your home with more lighting fixtures. Keep things airy by using light-coloured fixtures. These pendant lamps mimic the translucency of coiled yarn, adding another layer of lightness to a space.

Non Random Lights by Bertjan Pot for Moooi, price on application, from Space Furniture

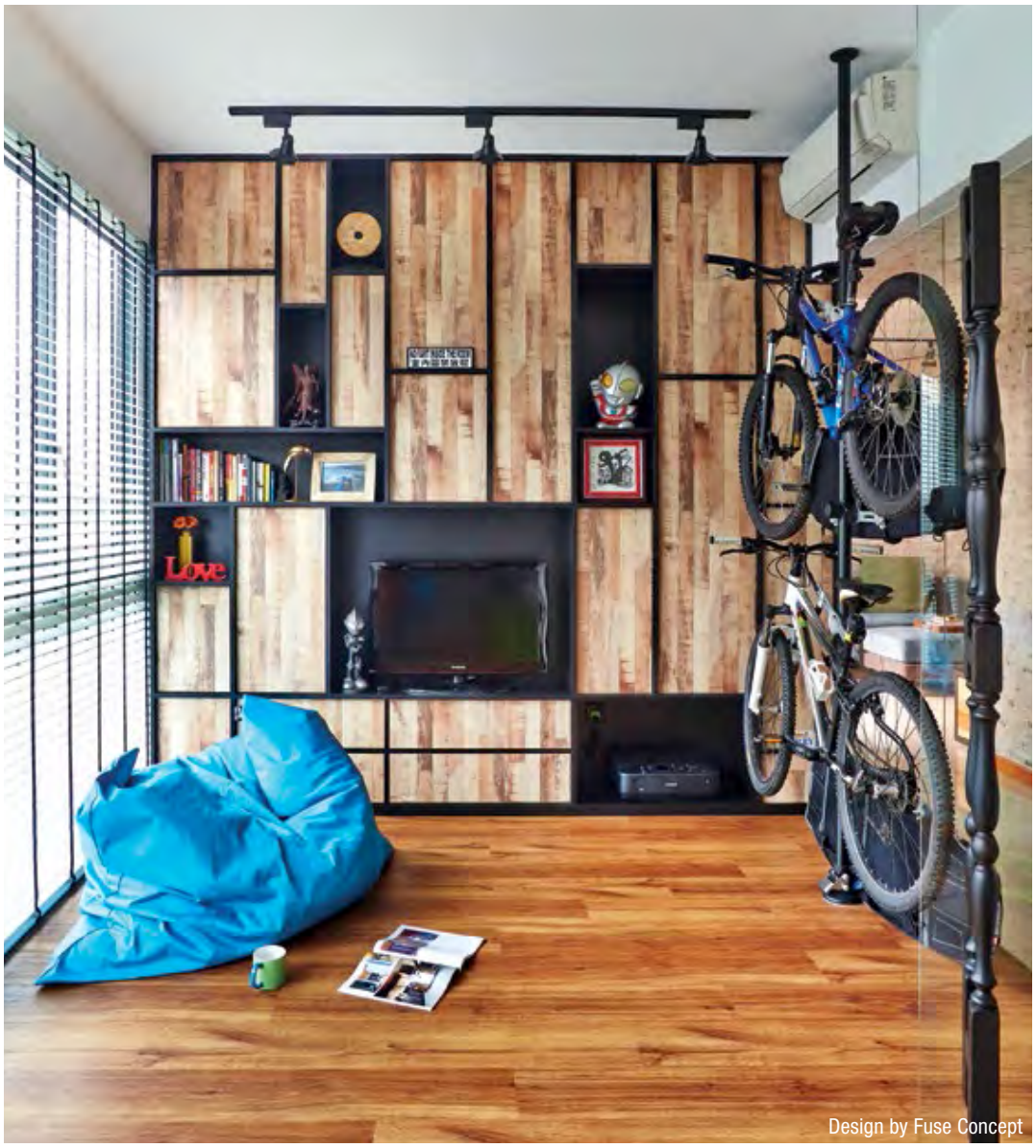
ON THE BRIGHT SIDE

Just like how light colours can visually expand a space, light does the same trick. Other than introducing additional lighting to your home, try to invite plenty of natural light into your space. Keep windows unobstructed by using simple fenestrations. Plain, light-coloured curtains work well, as do neutral-hued roman shades. The key thing to note is that you should allow as much light to flow into your home as possible to create depth.



LET THERE BE LIGHT
Plain, translucent curtains give you plenty of privacy while allowing daylight to stream into the home, making any space appear breezier and more capacious.

Design by 0932 Design Consultants



Design by Fuse Concept

BUILD UP

If you live in a small home, it only makes sense to make most of any available space. That means taking advantage of both linear and vertical space. Whether it is building top and bottom cabinets in the kitchen or installing wall-to-ceiling wardrobes in the bedroom, using wall space is not only practical, it also draws the eye up, making any room seem larger than it actually is.

UP & AWAY

Using wall space is a practical way to make use of every square centimetre of your home. Unusual built-up shelves like these add visual interest to a room, thanks to closed and exposed units that allow you to hide clutter while displaying collectibles and mementos.

OPEN ENDED

Open shelves tend to take up less space visually as they are less bulky. But if you need to hide clutter, installing doors and drawers in some units give you that option to keep things neat.

Design by Fuse Concept

Design by Distinct Identity

BOX IN A BOX
Glass walls are a great way to separate rooms in a home without boxing up the different zones. Without any visual interruptions, this living room doubles in size since the eye takes in the adjacent study as well.

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

A space without any visual interruptions has the effect of appearing larger. If you like the idea of partitions to separate communal zones in the home, glass panels are a great choice. This not only opens up the home visually, it also allows more light to flow in. Another way to enlarge your home is to use mirrors to bounce off light, which creates an illusion of extra space.

Using large mirrors in a home can instantly make a space seem bigger. This is because any available light is bounced off the reflective surface. If you don't wish to go through the hassle of installing built-in mirrors, propping up a standing mirror does the trick!

Strictly Studded Floor Mirror from The French Bedroom Company

Design by Rob.Wynn Interior Design Studio

SEE-THROUGH EFFECT
Instead of blocking off a walk-in wardrobe, sliding glass panels have been installed in this master suite, making the private sanctuary appear more spacious.

Design by 0932 Design Consultants

CLEAN SLATE
A white palette may be difficult to maintain but it can visually open up a space. If you think this scheme is monotonous, try incorporating different textures into the room.

Shades of white and off-white are great in brightening and lightening up a home. If your space is already swathed in white, these chairs will break up an all-white colour scheme thanks to its slightly off-white shade.

Dr. NO chair by Philippe Starck for Kartell, price on application, from Space Furniture

LIGHTEN UP

Go for a light and neutral palette. You'd be amazed at how this tried-and-tested trick can add visual space to a home. This applies not only to walls and flooring but also to furnishings and other decorative details. Home decor experts understand that white or light-coloured neutrals can expand a space visually. This is because dark colours absorb light rather than reflect it. Also try to use similar colours throughout your space, as it will make a small room appear larger.

ROOM FOR MORE

Starved for space? Maximise your square footage with these stylish space savers

TEXT & COORDINATION Ho Pei Ying

KROON LAMP
price upon application
at Space Furniture

ISLAND DAYBED
$1,799 at
Scanteak Signature

LAURA STOOL
$259 at Castlery

BINGO POUF
$6,902 at
Lifestorey

CLOCK TOWER MANTEL CLOCK
$109.95 at CB2

CHIVA FUNCTIONAL COFFEE TABLE
$1,695 at BoConcept

LIVING

Live large in one of the most important rooms at home.

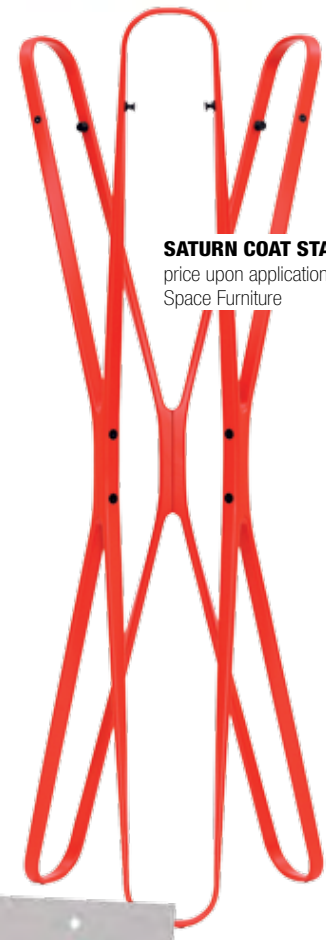
BED & BATH

Turn the private spaces in the house into space-savvy sanctuaries.

PARENTESI LIGHT FIXTURE
price upon application at Space Furniture

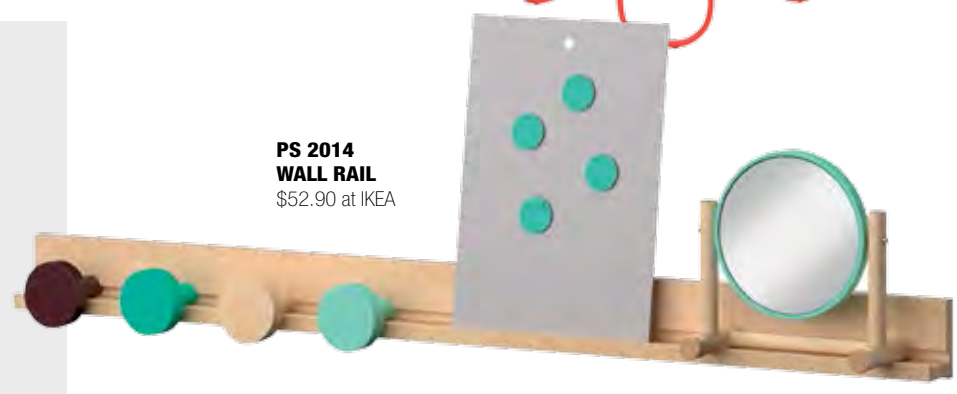
IKEA SILVERÅN 7294 SILVERAN BATHROOM SERIES
from $35 at IKEA

BRANLY CANDLE HOLDERS
from $25.95 each at CB2

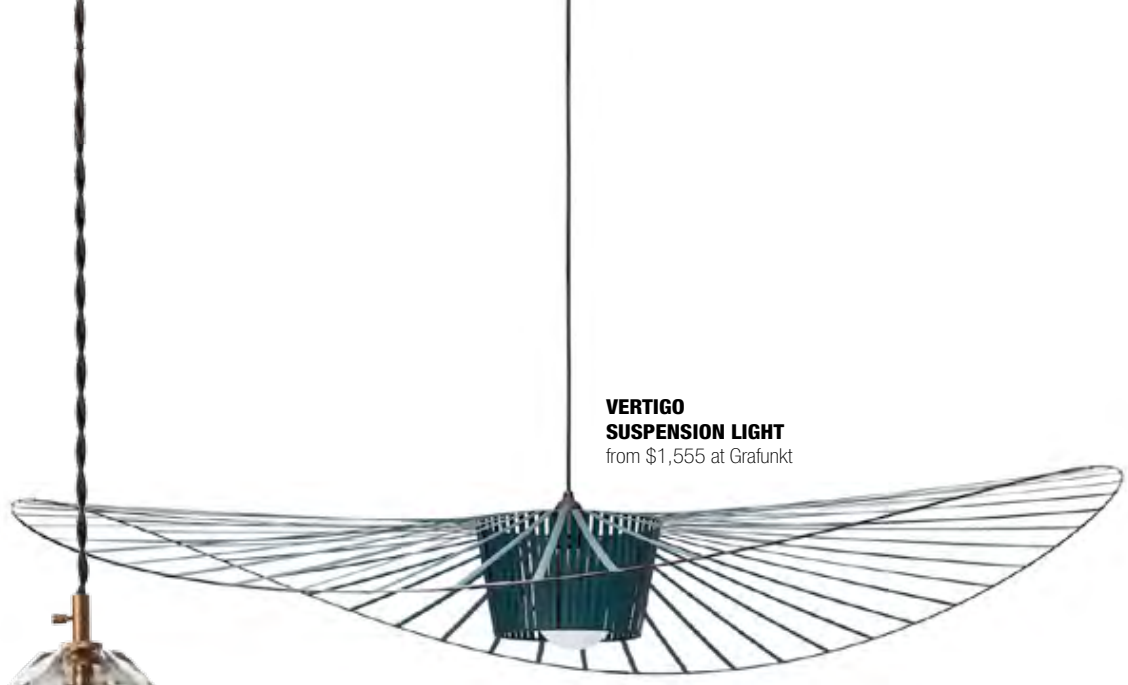


SATURN COAT STAND
price upon application at Space Furniture

SUNDAY WALL LIGHT SHELF
$308 at Danish Design



PS 2014 WALL RAIL
$52.90 at IKEA



VERTIGO
SUSPENSION LIGHT
from $1,555 at Grafunkt

UNIKA PENDANT LAMP
from $392 at Danish Design

FLIP TROLLEYS
price upon application
at Space Furniture

MUNDO
4 LEG CHAIR
from $525 at
Danish Design

KITCHEN & DINING

Whip up meals and entertain without restraint.

MILANO TABLE WITH
SUPPLEMENTARY TABLETOP
$2,195 at BoConcept

UTEN.SILO II STORAGE
price upon application at
Space Furniture

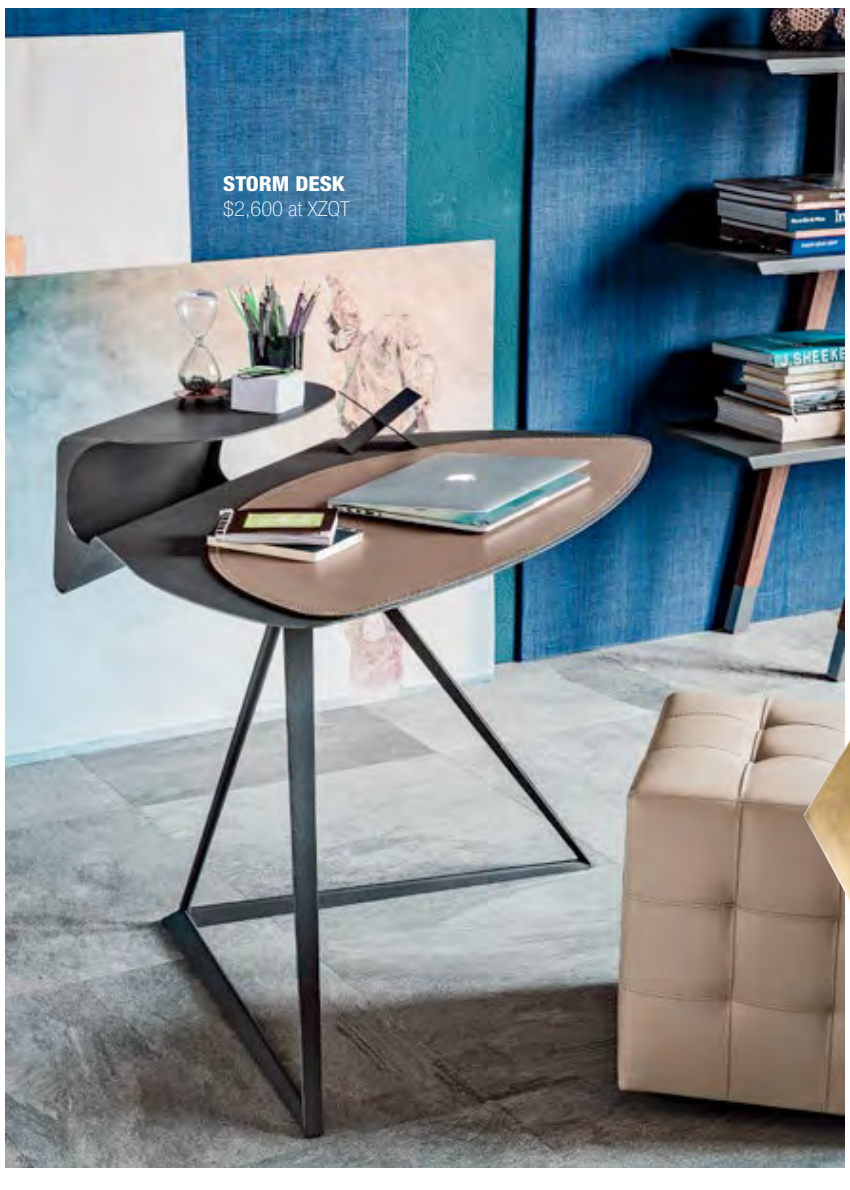
GOLDMAN LAMP
price upon application at Space Furniture

DESALTO HANG SHELVING UNIT
$2,079 at XTRA

HOME OFFICE

Work smart in a space smart study.

WOOOD TABLE
price upon application at Space Furniture



STORM DESK
$2,600 at XZQT

BLACKBOARD
$79 at Make Room

ADELAIDE CHAIR IN BLUE COLORADO LEATHER
$1,070 at BoConcept

ARTISTIC FLAIR

Paint some colour into your home with these effortless DIY projects

CRAFTWORK & ART DIRECTION Neo Aik Sing & Linda Setiono
PHOTOGRAPHY Justin Loh **SHOT ON LOCATION** Dream

GIVE IT A SWIRL
Bring out your inner artist with this easy yet stunning project. Fill a shallow dish or container with warm water and pour in a few drops of nail polish. Using a toothpick, swirl the mixture to form a marbling effect. Then carefully dip a cup halfway into the mixture. Tip the cup upside down and let it dry overnight.

Featuring Normann Copenhagen Color Box rust, $200, from Dream.

GOING POSTER

Tape all sides of a canvas board with masking tape to mark up a border. Then layer on poster colour onto the canvas in straight horizontal lines. Leave to dry before removing the tape. Voila! Your very own masterpiece!

Featuring Normann Copenhagen Color Box white, $200; Zuzunaga Squares throw, $768; Content by Conran Wave sideboard, $3,867; and Paola Lenti Shell pouf, $5,552, from Dream.

GLASS ACT

A frosted effect on drinking glasses can make a cool drink even more refreshing. Simply dip a sponge into some glass paint and dab the outside of the drinking tumbler. You can go as translucent or opaque as you like, and even layer on a few different colours. Leave cups to dry overnight before using.

POP ART

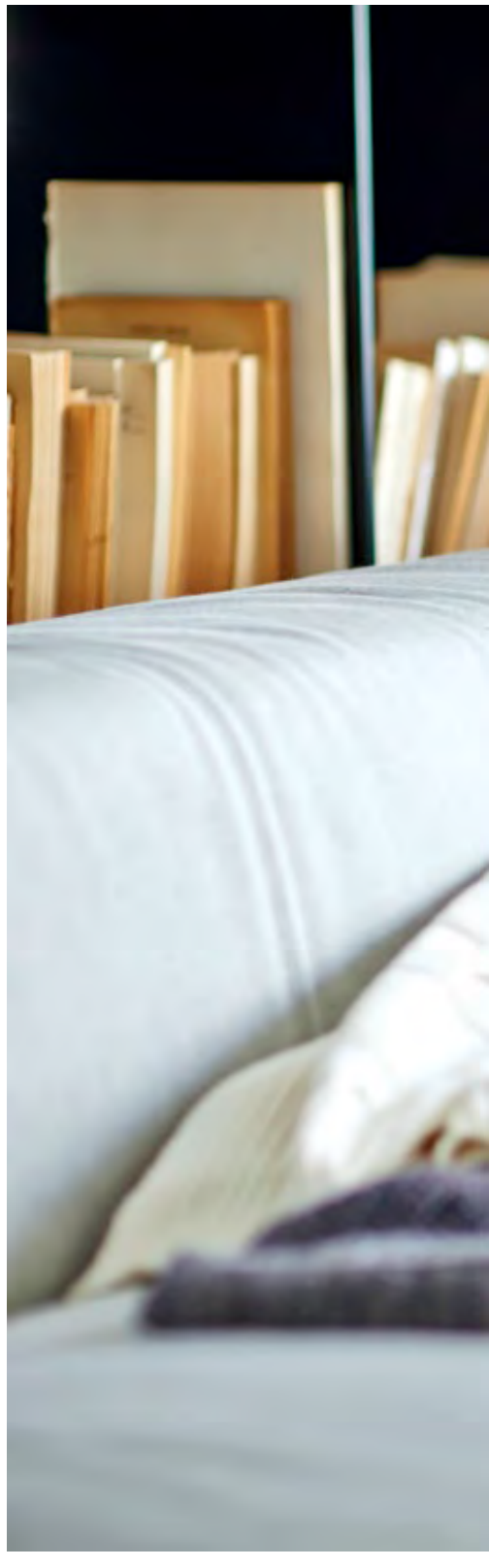
Liven up your kitchen with this colourful idea. Cut a sponge into a desired shape and size (we were inspired by quartered orange pieces). Dip the sponge into a bowl of fabric paint and dab the sponge on your chosen piece of napkin. Once the paint has dried, sew the outlines of the shapes to make them pop.

Featuring Capellini Pilot service table, $1,624, from Dream.

TRAY CHIC

We gave this tray a dark walnut finish by staining it first with a wood stain. Once that is dry, we dabbed on some acrylic paint with round sponges of varying sizes. Adding this whimsical touch is sure to impress your guests!

Featuring Zuzunaga Squares throw, $768, from Dream.



MAKE A SPLASH

Love abstract art? Create your very own Jackson Pollock-inspired plates with this simple project. Add a small amount of water-based porcelain paint into a jar. Then add paint thinner until a watercolour consistency is achieved. Mix using a wooden stick or a spoon. Drop, swirl, splatter or brush the paint mixture onto oven-safe plates. Once you get your desired look, leave them to dry for 24 hours. Then bake the plates for 35 minutes in an oven set to 300 degree Celsius.

Featuring Cassina Tabouret Maison Du Bresil stools, from $1,584 each, from Dream.

STROKE OF GENIUS

Bored of your plain cushion cover? That's nothing a tube of fabric paint can't fix. Simply brush on metallic paint in bold strokes directly onto the fabric. Don't forget to iron the cushion cover to set the fabric paint in place.

Featuring Cappellini Cuba sofa, $7,679, from Dream.

SOFT FOCUS

Make your personal space the ideal spot to snuggle up with some comforting throws and cushions

ART DIRECTION Neo Aik Sing
STYLING Biona Boon
PHOTOGRAPHY Justin Loh
SHOT ON LOCATION Studio Grafunkt

1
2
3

GO FOR BOLD

Choose graphic black-and-white soft furnishings to make a statement. This look is perfect for you if you love the Scandinavian style.

1 Lappljung Ruta cushion cover, $19.90, from IKEA **2** Crosses cushions, $39.99, (for a set of two), from Spotlight **3** Stockholm cushion, $29.90, from IKEA

Shot with Studiografunkt Neon tables, from $418 each, from Grafunkt.

WALK THE LINE

Keep things interesting by pairing graphic designs with textured pieces for an unexpectedly cosy effect.

1 Living Space cable knit throw, $79.99 **2** Bramptom House Abbots print cushion, $34.99 **3** Bramptom House Campbell cushion, $34.99, all from Spotlight

Shot with Gubi Grossman Grashoppa standing lamp, $1,547; &tradition Hoof table, $840; SITS Impulse sofa, $2,500; and FOLKS Wonderbox, from $503 each, all from Grafunkt. Shapes of Sydney print, $84.90 from Naiise.

1 Hermaine throw, $39.90, from IKEA **2** Stockholm throw, $59, from IKEA **3** Ursula throw, $69, from IKEA **4** Crosses cushions, $39.99 (for a set of two), from Spotlight **5** Living Space Diamond throw, $49.99, from Spotlight

Shot with Studiografunkt ladder chair, $343, and Yeh wall table (tall), $370, from Grafunkt.

KNIT IDEA

Knits are the best material to keep warm on a particularly cool evening. Not only that, they also soften a room visually, making your home even more inviting.

LACED WITH CHARM
Intricate details and embellishments reminiscent of Moorish and Arabian decorative accents can add a touch of the exotic to the home. It is also an easy way to add colour to an otherwise minimalist space.

1 Medallion cushion cover, $49.99, from Spotlight **2** Hyde Park Greta cushion cover, $34.99, from Spotlight **3** Ofelia throw, $59, from IKEA **4** Jasper Oblong cushion cover, $29.99, from Spotlight **5** Eclipse cushion, $34.99, from Spotlight

Shot with Hay loop stand, $305, and Hay Bella coffee table, $365, from Grafunkt.

ALL IN ORDER

Declutter and regain control of your space with these nifty organising systems

TEXT Ho Pei Ying

1

WORKS LIKE A CHARM

Don't let a messy cubicle hinder your ability to get work done. Get desktop trays to help keep your space and thoughts in order! Choose bright hues as they can fuel your inspiration.

House Doctor

2

BRANCHING OUT

Keep your baubles and bling tangle free with this rustically beautiful jewellery organiser. No longer will you need to rummage around for your trinkets; you'll also get to display them for all to see!

Madam Stoltz

4

TAG ‘EM

Take the time to label and date your foods. It helps you keep track of what’s expiring too so you know what needs to be consumed first.

Hemsmak adhesive labels, $3.90 per 90 pieces, IKEA

3

SHOE STASH

An open shoe rack is not for everyone, but if you have amassed a collection of fabulous heels that simply warrant showing off, this 21-pair shoe storage should do the trick. It uses wall room, so it’s space saving too!

21-pair shoe rack, $55.99, Howards Storage World

5

YOU’VE GOT MAIL

Bills, catalogues and other mail tend to pile up over time. Why not invest in a hanging pocket organiser that helps to sort out your post?

Ferm Living

6

PILING THE PLATES

Stacking dishware on top of one another takes up less room in your kitchen cabinets, but that doesn't make it easy to pull out when you wish to use them. Blum's plate holder not only allows you to store your dishes neatly, it also helps to remove and transport plates from cabinet to table effortlessly.

Blum plate holder

7

PANTRY PLANNER

No more hunting around for your food supplies with clear jars and containers, which keep your dry goods in plain sight and kitchen tidy so you can focus on whipping up delicious meals!

Madam Stoltz

8

TOY COLLECTOR

A neat and tidy nursery or playroom sounds too good to be true? With IKEA's Trofast toy storage series, it might just be possible. This versatile range comes with storage bins in different sizes so it caters even to the biggest of toy collections. And with different colour and finish options for the frames, it will fit right into any decor.

Trofast toy storage series, from $3 for a storage bin, IKEA

1 MODEL, MULTIPLE COMBINATIONS

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COSIMO GALLERY PTE LTD

DEEP POCKETS
These wall-mounted pocket organisers are great for frequently used odds and ends. Play around with colours and sizes so you not only have a clever storage solution, but a stylish decorative piece too.

Normann Copenhagen pocket organisers, $55, Lifestorey

AT YOUR SERVICE
Freestanding wardrobes can take up too much space, particularly if you have a small bedroom. Why not invest in a clothing rack like this one? This three-in-one piece serves as a clothes hanger, comes with a full-length mirror, and features four tiers to store your fashion accessories.

Bak valet stand, $3,850, The Beuro

THIS OR THAT
Laundry sorting can be a tedious affair, so it works to have a visual cue. Washing baskets like these can help you separate your darks from your lights with greater ease.

Cranmore Home

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SMALL *wonders*

Space-saving home appliances and equipment that are just as efficient as large-format products

TEXT Jolene Limuco

DIMENSIONS
13.5 x 36.2 x 3.8cm
(HxLxW)

WEIGHT
4.76kg

POWER FEATURE
"Cyclone Force" suction system that creates centrifugal force to separate dust and debris from the filter

robot with a difference

SAMSUNG POWERbot VR9000 ROBOT VACUUM CLEANER

PRICE: $1,499

The introduction of vacuum robots has effectively disrupted the vacuum cleaner market. But Samsung's POWERbot VR9000 robot vacuum cleaner goes over and beyond other vacuum bots out there because it promises greater suction power that has proven to be 60 times more powerful than conventional Samsung vacuum cleaners. It is also equipped with a patented "Cyclone Force" technology that maintains suction power by minimising instances of clogged filters. This feature creates centrifugal force that separates dust and debris, allowing the filter to remain relatively unclogged after every bout of cleaning. This is especially important because we all know that a clean filter results in a more efficient vacuum cleaner. Another great feature of this vacuum bot is that it contains 10 sensors and an onboard digital camera that can map out your home, allowing it to calculate the most efficient cleaning path. And if you feel that the robot missed a spot, simply use the "Point Cleaning" mode to highlight the offending area, and the POWERbot VR9000 will follow the beam and clean without stopping a beat.

lightweight power tool

DYSON DC61 MOTORHEAD HANDHELD VACUUM CLEANER

PRICE: $499

Weighing in at 1.57kg, this lightweight handheld vacuum cleaner is highly versatile. What makes this stick vacuum stand out is that most of the mechanics and bin are in your hand, making it easy to manoeuvre around odd corners. Its versatility and portability mean that this machine can be used to easily clean sofas, shelves and other hard-to-reach spots at home. Despite its petite size, this vacuum cleaner is highly effective. This is thanks to a digital motor that spins up to 110,000 times a minute, which translates to more powerful suction. It is also equipped with 15 cyclones arranged across two tiers that work in tandem to increase airflow to capture fine dust, as well as a "boost mode" that provides six minutes of powerful suction. Perhaps the best feature of the Dyson DC61 Motorhead is its ergonomic design that fits comfortably into the hand. Its centre of gravity has been designed to concentrate towards the grip for easy handling.

DIMENSIONS
20.8 x 39.5 x 14.4cm
(HxLxW)

WEIGHT
1.57kg

POWER FEATURE
Digital motor that spins up to 110,000 times a minute and a series of cyclones to increase airflow

full on sound

LG MUSIC FLOW WI-FI STREAMING SOUND BAR (HS7)

PRICE: $699

This sound bar ticks both the form and function boxes. Aesthetically it looks sleek and elegant with its unobtrusive and streamlined design. Don't write it off because of its plain appearance though. The slim sound bar contains four separate speakers to deliver rich, full and immersive sound. What's even more impressive about this compact audio player is that it is not only for your TV-viewing pleasure. It can also be synced up with the LG Music Flow Player app, allowing users full access and complete control of your digital music collections. Via the search feature on the app, you can simply find and play tracks stored on any Internet-enabled device connected to LG Music Flow through your home Wi-Fi network. This home sound system can also be linked up to Spotify, Deezer and TuneIn to stream music directly from the service providers.

DIMENSIONS
10.6 x 4.5 x 8.2cm
(WxHxD)

WEIGHT
3.3kg

POWER FEATURE
Four speakers in the slim sound bar deliver rich, full and immersive sound

pint-sized purifier

NOVITA AIRCARE AIR STERILIZER NAS 300

PRICE: $119

If you think that spending most of your time indoors makes you less susceptible to dust, think again. Indoor air actually contains an invisible cloud of particulate matter, microorganisms, organic compounds and dust that flow in from outside. This is why air purifiers have become essential products for the home and workplace. While most air purifiers tend to be bulky, the Novita AirCare Air Sterilizer NAS 300 is portable and handy. Measuring 10.8cm by 9.5cm, this air purifier hardly takes up any space – you can position it on a desk, shelf or even the kitchen counter top. Given its pint size, the NAS 300 punches above its weight. It is able to eliminate airborne germs and unpleasant odour with its powerful oxidation capacity that aids controlled ozone concentration. Its portable plug-and-go design also makes it a versatile unit that can be used in a variety of rooms.

DIMENSIONS
10.8 x 12 x 9.5cm
(HxDxW)

WEIGHT
171g

POWER FEATURE
Controlled ozone concentration that effectively eliminates airborne germs and odours

high velocity performer

DYSON AM06 25CM DESK FAN

PRICE: $399

With its sleek bladeless design, the Dyson fan range is a game-changer. Its "air multiplier" technology allows air to be accelerated through an annular aperture that draws in surrounding air to project steady and high-velocity airflow. We like this AM06 model because it is not only compact and lightweight – making it suitable for tight spaces – it is also powerful. In fact, it produces a steady airstream with up to 10 settings to cool you down on a particularly hot and humid day. This model is an improved version of the older Dyson AM01, so users can expect better performance and efficiency too. The newer model is 75 per cent quieter than its predecessor, and on top of that, it consumes 30 per cent less energy.

DIMENSIONS
50 x 25 x 14.5cm
(H x Amp Diameter x Base Diameter)

WEIGHT
3.3kg

POWER FEATURE
Air multiplier technology accelerates air through the aperture by drawing surrounding air to project steady, high-velocity airflow

DIMENSIONS
19.1 x 28.3 x 38.2cm
(WxHxD)

WEIGHT
3kg

POWER FEATURE
Compact machine that brews a strong cup of coffee in less than 30 seconds

miniature marvel

NESPRESSO PIXIE CLIPS

PRICE: $338

A cup of coffee is an instant pick-me-up at any time of the day. This is why Nespresso's Pixie range is such a godsend – especially if you are short on space at home. The brand's latest release is the Nespresso Pixie Clips, a coffee machine that condenses all of Nespresso's advanced technologies into one small package. As with all Pixie machines, the newest version creates robust yet smooth coffee all with a touch of a button. What's new about the Pixie Clips is that it comes with interchangeable side panels to complement your interiors or whims. When it comes to functionality, this miniature machine is all about performance. It can brew a delicious cup of coffee in less than 30 seconds. Plus, it has an energy-saving feature that allows the machine to automatically switch off after nine minutes.

DIMENSIONS
36.2 x 28.6 x 14.6cm
(LxWxH)

WEIGHT
6.49kg

POWER FEATURE
"Waffle IQ" feature programmed to calculate the optimum time to cook different kinds of waffles

smart kitchen tool

BREVILLE – THE SMART WAFFLE

PRICE: $398

If you are someone who enjoys whipping up an elaborate breakfast then the Smart Waffle maker from Australian brand Breville is perfect for you. This countertop machine turns out perfect waffles every time. In fact, the machine has been thoughtfully designed with a moat that catches and cooks batter overflow, and a "Waffle IQ" feature that calculates the optimum time to cook a variety of waffles – from Belgian and Classic to Chocolate and Buttermilk. All you have to do, in fact, is to switch on the machine, pour in the batter mix and press a button. The waffle maker will do the rest. The two-slice version is also perfect for small homes because measuring at 36.2cm by 28.6cm it doesn't take up much counter or cupboard space.

THE OPEN OFFICE

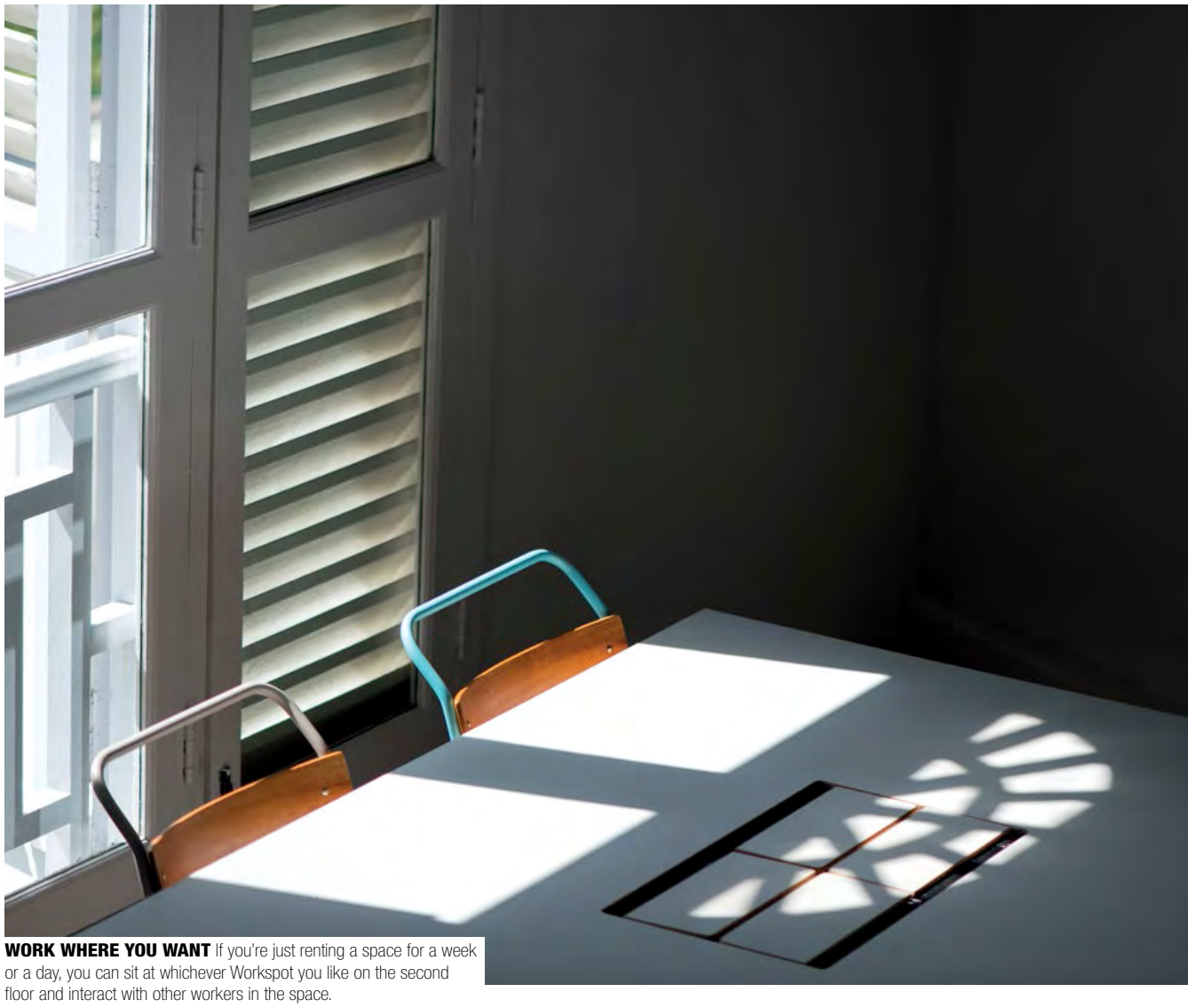
A brand new endeavour along Keong Saik Road, The Working Capitol is changing the way businesses function

TEXT Yuen Yi Ying **PHOTOS** The Working Capitol

In our increasingly connected world, the way companies operate has become a lot more collaborative and flexible. As such, The Bamboo Group – a locally-based boutique real estate and development company – had wanted to act on co-founder Ben Gattie's longstanding idea of setting up a hybrid office space that would help people from different disciplines and industries interact and work together in more meaningful ways.

When the old AIA building on the corner of Keong Saik Road came up for sale, there was no hesitation in snapping up the unique structure that sits right at the start of the street. Offering 33,000 square feet of space, the three-storey complex was originally five shophouses joined together. Now, it comprises open and private workspaces, a beer garden and several eateries including The Daily Roundup, Luxe Singapore, Lollapalooza and Neon Pigeon, all run by the

CO-FOUNDERS Saranta Gattie, Ben Gattie and Y.C. Teo



WORK WHERE YOU WANT If you're just renting a space for a week or a day, you can sit at whichever Workspot you like on the second floor and interact with other workers in the space.

Lo & Behold Group. The space also hosts several exhibitions, talks and events that are open to tenants and the public. In the past, activities held here have included film screenings, a local market, book launches and networking sessions, shares Saranta Gattie, one of the three co-founders and the sister of Ben Gattie (their other partner is Y.C. Teo).

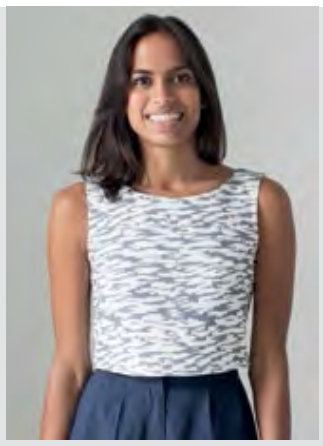
Entrance to the office is via The Daily Roundup, a cafe and creperie where tenants can pick up a cup of joe and breakfast on their way up. According to Saranta, The Working Capitol is best suited for freelancers, start-ups and small companies, "because of space constraints". "Our private workspaces have a maximum capacity of eight people – [so] smaller teams fit best. We're not completely closed off to big businesses however.

The space is designed to be modular

and adaptable; we do have big business tenants who choose to set up their APAC headquarters in The Working Capitol."

Perfect for entrepreneurs and freelancers looking for new ways to work and develop their business, The Working Capitol provides everything you need from Wi-Fi and printing facilities to mailing services. It also offers several tenancy options. You can walk in and ask for a one-day Workspot, or take on a month-to-month membership. Permanent Workdesks require a minimum term of three months, while Workspaces have a minimum six-month occupancy period. The current mix includes a social management company, a travel boutique agency, a specialist music agency and educational entrepreneurs, almost maxing out the permanent offerings available.

Co-founder Saranta shares her favourite things about The Working Capitol



1 The abundance of natural light.

2 Our proximity to great eateries, after-work hangout spots and tons of history.

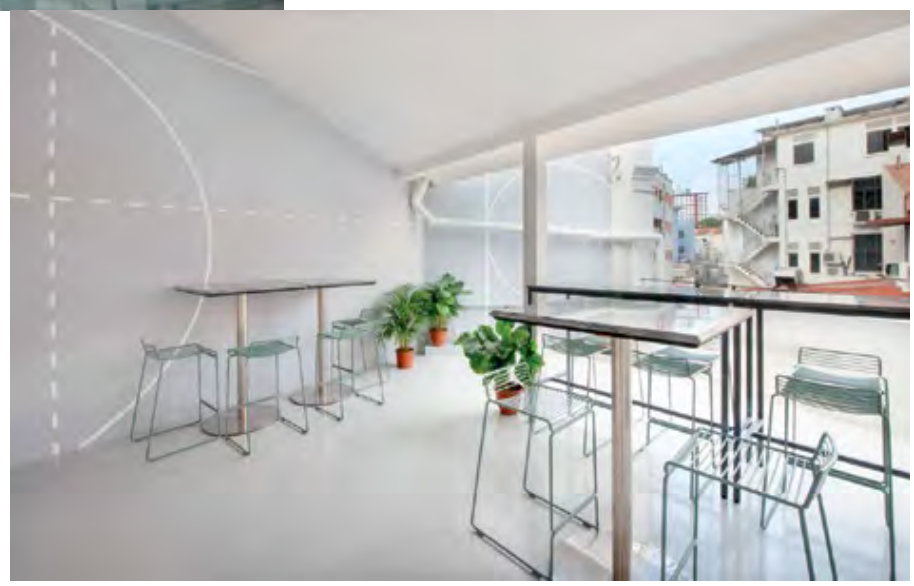
3 The range of original programmes and activities we hold regularly to complement work: Mindful Monday yoga and meditations, Member Mixers, film screenings… and that's just for a start.

4 The amazing perks and benefits offered to our community by our partners, who provide a whole spectrum of services from travel and accommodation to education and skills building. Our partners include the Unlisted Collection and General Assembly.

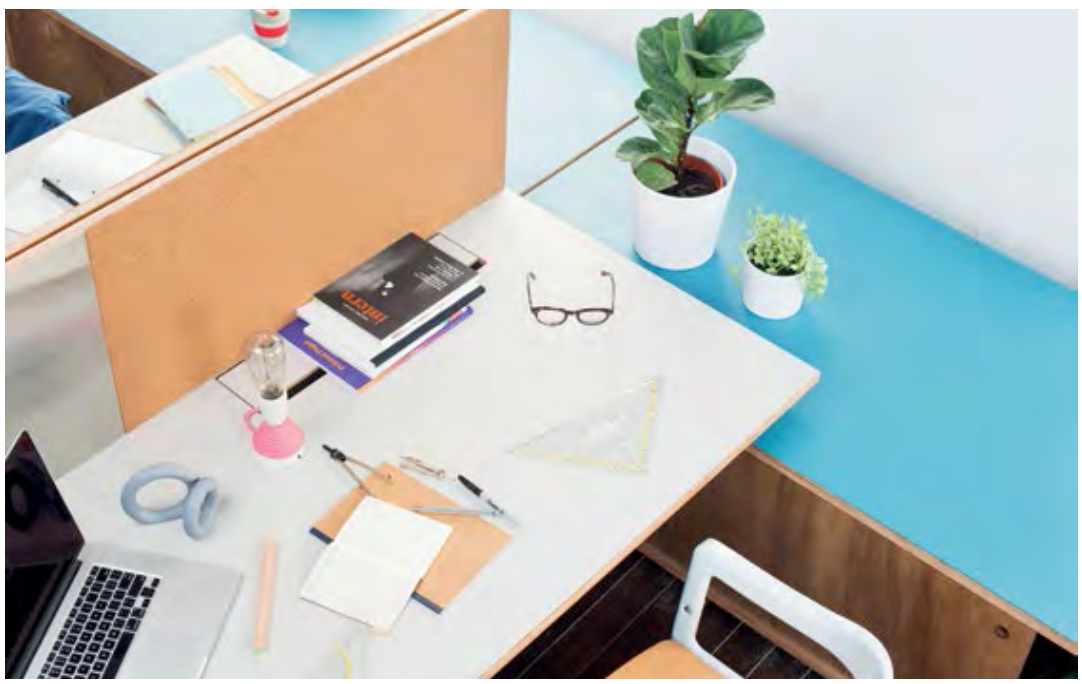
5 Our members. Some of the most forward-thinking companies and 'solopreneurs' have come through our doors and settled in our space – from a non-profit that develops agricultural partnerships in the region to a company that is changing the way we approach fitness – and we think that they're possibly the coolest thing about us.

CASUAL EXCHANGE Tenants love hanging out at the Beer Garden where they can take in the view, grab a drink and share ideas.

> *"Here, there are always people coming and going, hanging out near the pantry or at the cafe, and we like to think that all it takes to maybe spark the next great idea is a simple 'Hello'. There's an idea of mutual benefit — people are curious: what can you do for me? What can I do for you?"*
>
> ***Saranta Gattie, Co-founder***



Although the idea for creating this open office space had been brewing for a long time, things came together quite quickly once the owners acquired the property in early 2014. As they wanted to "create a space that was meant to be experienced and shared by a large community of people from different backgrounds," the founders sought out people with the same vision and brought onboard architectural consultants Tiah Nan Chyuan and Lee Hui Lian from Farm, a cross-disciplinary



CHILL VIBES Simple lines and pleasing colours make this office feel more like a casual cafe.

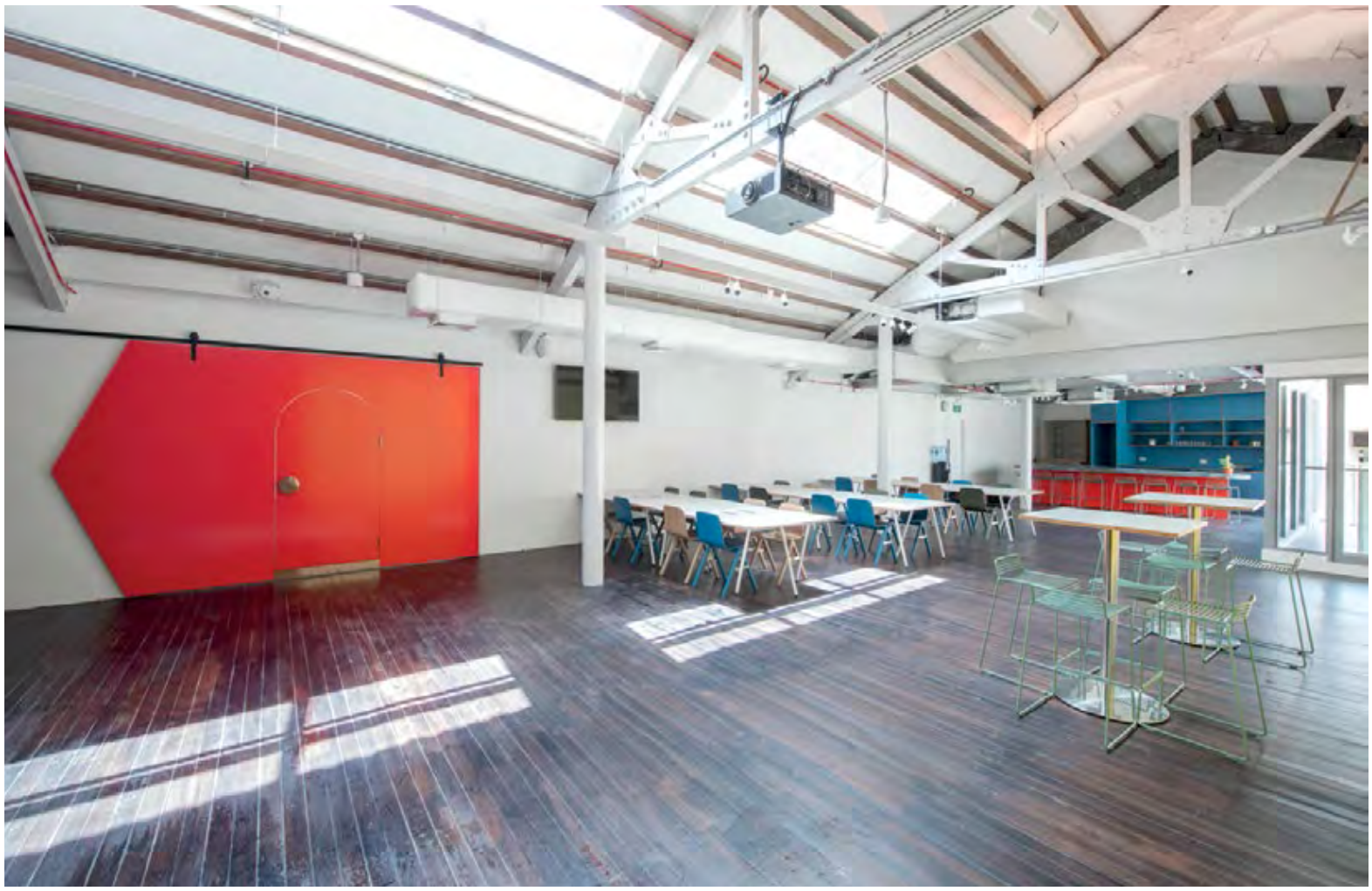
LITTLE DETAILS These colourful supports for the shelving look like a string of pennant flags.

THINKING OUT OF THE BOX Fun meeting spaces like these spark creativity.

A PLACE TO GATHER The bright hues in this events space encourage interaction and bold ideas.

studio with roots in community projects that promote the arts. Keeping in mind the building's heritage and history, the duo were responsible for segmenting and laying out the various areas in the complex to suit all the different ways users would want to use the space.

Unlike most offices, work areas in the property are doused in natural light,



thanks to newly installed skylights, and the inspirational feel of the space is amped up with high ceilings that show off the building's structure and historic roots in an understated yet beautiful manner.

Marc Webb and Naoko Takenouchi from Takenouchi Webb designed the chic interiors – their first foray into conceptualising an office – and although they were initially hesitant about taking up the job, they were sold on the possibilities once they saw the vast space in person.

After six months of renovations, The Working Capitol finally debuted this year, bringing to fruition a very forward-thinking idea and probably becoming the most exciting office to work in right now.

For more information, visit www.theworkingcapitol.com

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SENTIMENTAL VALUE
The wine glass collection means a lot to the lady of the house, as it was a gift from her late father. Alvin opted to display them here by constructing an open shelf unit in the original recess area in the wall. Below, a chiller and a series of cubbies act as storage for the homeowners' wine collection.

neutral GROUNDS

Subdued hues bring this creatively designed home together despite the absence of an overarching theme

TEXT Ho Pei Ying **PHOTOS** The Scientist

3 BEDROOM CONDO | **1,200** sqf | RENO PERIOD **8 WEEKS** | BUDGET **$85K** | HOME TO

MUTED TONES
Awash in neutral hues, the home puts you in a relaxing mood once you step in. Glass panels divide the different sections of the space and allow daylight to filter in, brightening up the home.

DINING ROOM
(top, left)
Evoking an industrial feel in this communal eating space are the wire mesh chairs and a solid wood dining table with hairpin legs. Behind, roller blinds – chosen to match the utilitarian look – hide the glare from the sun, while a brilliant pop of blue from one of the pendants invigorates the space.

There's only one thing to say about this pair of homeowners, and it's that they love to shop. So when they purchased their first home together and hired designer Alvin Ling of The Scientist to do up it up, they had only one request for him: plenty of wardrobe space for their massive collection of clothing and accessories.

Alvin thus proposed hacking away the original concrete walls dividing the master bedroom and the en-suite bathroom, and replacing them with a row of full-height wardrobes. The cabinet design was deliberately kept minimal – groove lines with black trimming – so as not to steal attention away from the rest of the space. Within the master bedroom itself, an area was set aside for the walk-in wardrobe. Here, the couple's fashion statements are in full display thanks to a combined use of custom-built glass cabinets and open shelving systems.

But it's not just their clothing that the homeowners required space for. The lady of the house also wanted a place to display her glassware, which is of great sentimental value to her as they were given to her by her late father. Alvin spotted a recess area in the living area of the original layout and suggested

space saving *tip*

A sofa bed provides the versatility for when the homeowners have guests staying over. Instead of concrete walls, glass panels were used to partition the room to invite natural light in and allow the space to appear more spacious. Roller blinds were installed for privacy.

LIVING ROOM
(left)
Instead of going for a pendant lamp or chandelier to anchor the room, Alvin opted for ceiling-mounted spotlights to avoid pulling down the area's height. Secondary lighting, in the form of industrial-esque luminaires, extends from the side of room to add visual interest.

Muuto Wood Lamp from Foundry

SPACE FOR MORE
(right)
Because the couple requested for ample closet storage space in the home, Alvin suggested knocking down all the original walls between the master bedroom and en-suite bathroom and replacing them with full-height wardrobes.

VANITY
(below)
Want to feel like a star? Give your vanity mirror a Hollywood style makeover by surrounding it with light bulbs. Black granite, used on the rest of the vanity, gives the en-suite bathroom an added touch of class and luxury, while glossy white subway tiles provide a strong visual contrast and help to bounce plenty of light around.

constructing an open shelf unit there, which the couple also used to store their wine collection.

The newlyweds did not have a particular preference for a single theme, which meant that the designer had greater freedom to experiment and be creative in the different parts of the home. One of the most striking areas is the master bathroom. Segregated into a toilet, a shower area and a vanity corner, there is nothing short of drama here. The shower room is designed to resemble a luxury spa, with a rainfall shower head and a window sitting ledge. Three different types of tiles cover the surfaces in the bathroom, while

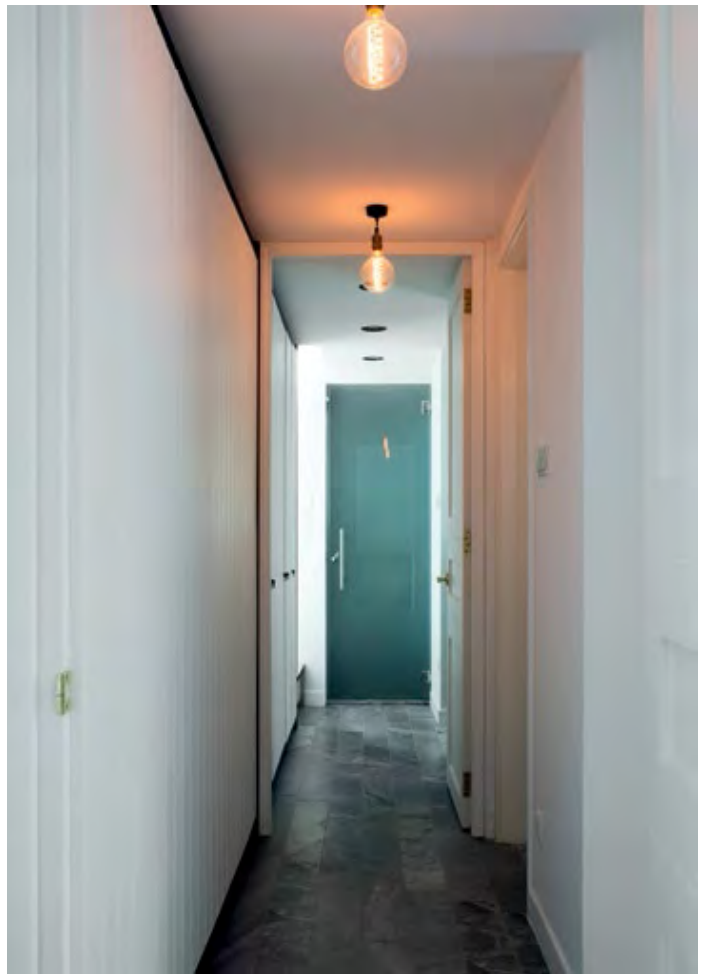
“There was an existing bay window in the bedroom. We raised it up to the same level to create a separation between the sleeping area and the wardrobe.”

Alvin Ling

MASTER BEDROOM

To create a clear demarcation between the sleeping area and walk-in wardrobe, the snooze zone was raised to the same level as the existing bay window. Although the raised platform takes up a lot of room, light-coloured surfaces here help to give the illusion of a taller and bigger space.

WALK-IN WARDROBE
(below)
Open shelves and clear glass cabinets in the walk-in wardrobe – portioned out from the master bedroom – provide the perfect setting for the couple to flaunt their fashion pieces.



CORRIDOR LIGHTS
(left)
An otherwise nondescript corridor that leads towards the private spaces of the home is given character and warmth thanks to the choice of lighting. Sourced from Verde Light, these exposed filament bulbs furnish the walkway with an old-world feel.

SHOWER ROOM
(far left)
Separated from the toilet and vanity area, the shower room is an oasis for relaxation with a rainfall shower and window sitting ledge. Since the space is already decked out in vibrantly patterned tiles, the palette was limited to monochrome colours to avoid visually complicating it.

light bulbs surrounding the double mirrors of the black granite-clad vanity call to mind the glamour of old Hollywood.

Contrasting with the flamboyance of the bathroom, the master bedroom is all Zen. With its raised platform and muted tones, the bedchamber conjures up an image of calm and repose. Likewise, there are few similarities in the communal zones. The dining room features an industrial style with unpolished metals and rustic woods, while the living area adopts a simple and clean aesthetic.

Despite the lack of an overarching theme, the apartment comes together because the palette was kept subdued with colours like whites, blacks and browns. And the resulting soothing ambiance is exactly what the couple is looking for in their home.

MATERIALS

BEDROOM PLATFORM
Woodgrain laminate

BATHROOM VANITY
Black granite

BATHROOM SURFACE
Patterned tiles from Hafary

COOL *minimalism*

This five-room HDB maisonette is a study in simple luxury thanks to an uncomplicated foundation and design-savvy details

TEXT Jolene Limuco **PHOTOS** Tai Heng

5 ROOM HDB MAISONETTE | 1,550 sqf | RENO PERIOD 10 WEEKS | HOME TO HOUGANG

LIVING ROOM
The living room is a modern sanctuary with its minimalist appearance and unfussy furnishings. To make the space seem clean and seamless, a false wall was erected at the TV console to hide electrical points and sockets. Instead of demarcating the living and dining zones, the two areas flow seamlessly into one another.

OVERALL LOOK *(below)*
As this five-room maisonette was inspired by boutique hotels, the homeowners did not wish to skimp on the details – glossy homogeneous tiles in the lower level give the home a polished look while a mix of designer and mid-range furniture reflect the tastes of the design-savvy couple.

For most of us, a home is a place to escape from the daily grind. After all, it is our own private sanctuary where we can relax and truly be ourselves. The word "sanctuary" is perhaps the best way to describe this five-room HDB maisonette located in Hougang Street 21. Boasting an unsullied mien and complemented by unfussy furnishings, the home is a minimalist haven tailor-made for the young homeowners with refined tastes.

The couple was introduced to the design team at 0932 Design Consultants by friends who had engaged the architectural and interior design firm for their home. Having liked what they saw in their friends' home, the couple decided to commission the same design firm for their resale unit.

Because the homeowners wanted a total revamp for their apartment, the designers proposed a sophisticated and tasteful look inspired by boutique hotels. 0932 Design Consultants is, after all, an interior design firm with a strong background in designing and furnishing luxury accommodations around the region.

Therefore, elements often seen and experienced in luxury hotels can be found in this heartland unit. For one, the foyer and living areas have been purposely kept empty to evoke a sense of spaciousness. While no walls have been broken

METALWORK
(left)
A series of custom-designed metal gates were made especially for the design-conscious homeowners. This metal frame is the same as the one at the main entrance. In this instance, it is used as a feature piece to hang plants, giving the space some visual contrast to an otherwise uncomplicated interior.

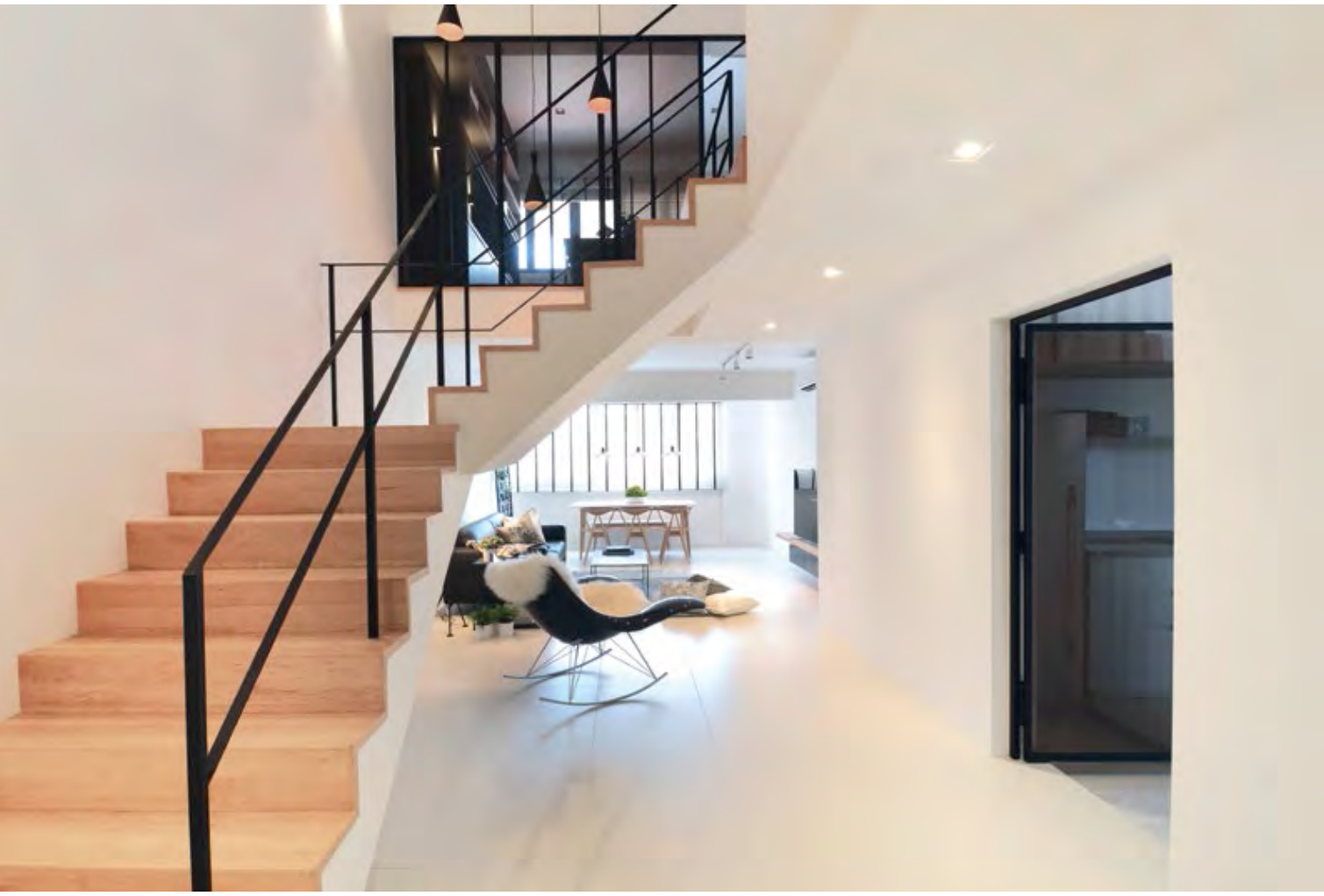
FURNITURE
(below)
The design team at 0932 Design Consultants chose most of the furniture in the living room to match with the Stingray Rocking Chair the homeowners bought from Danish Design. While the colour scheme is minimal – with the use of monochromes – the effect is visually stunning nonetheless. This is because structural pieces are juxtaposed with just the right amount of texture.

down between these two spaces, a false wall was added in the living room to hide electrical and socket points. This simple move makes the lower level of the home appear seamless and clean. The entire area was also given a fresh coat of paint to brighten up the space.

This minimalist approach is further extended to the upper level of the home. The existing railings at the staircase were replaced by thin black banisters, which lend a sense of transparency to the space. By installing a streamlined banister, the usually dark space is lightened tremendously – both in volume and brightness.

“While the minimalist setting is a daring approach for homes, this style actually fits the homeowners' simple yet elegant tastes – and they have the space to spare.”

Design Team from
0932 Design Consultants



STAIRCASE
Thin banisters were placed on the staircase to make the space appear brighter and more transparent. The same black-framed effect was repeated in the glass walls of the study for continuity. On the upper level, the see-through walls heighten the sense of airiness in this usually dark space.

Stingray Rocking Chair from Danish Design

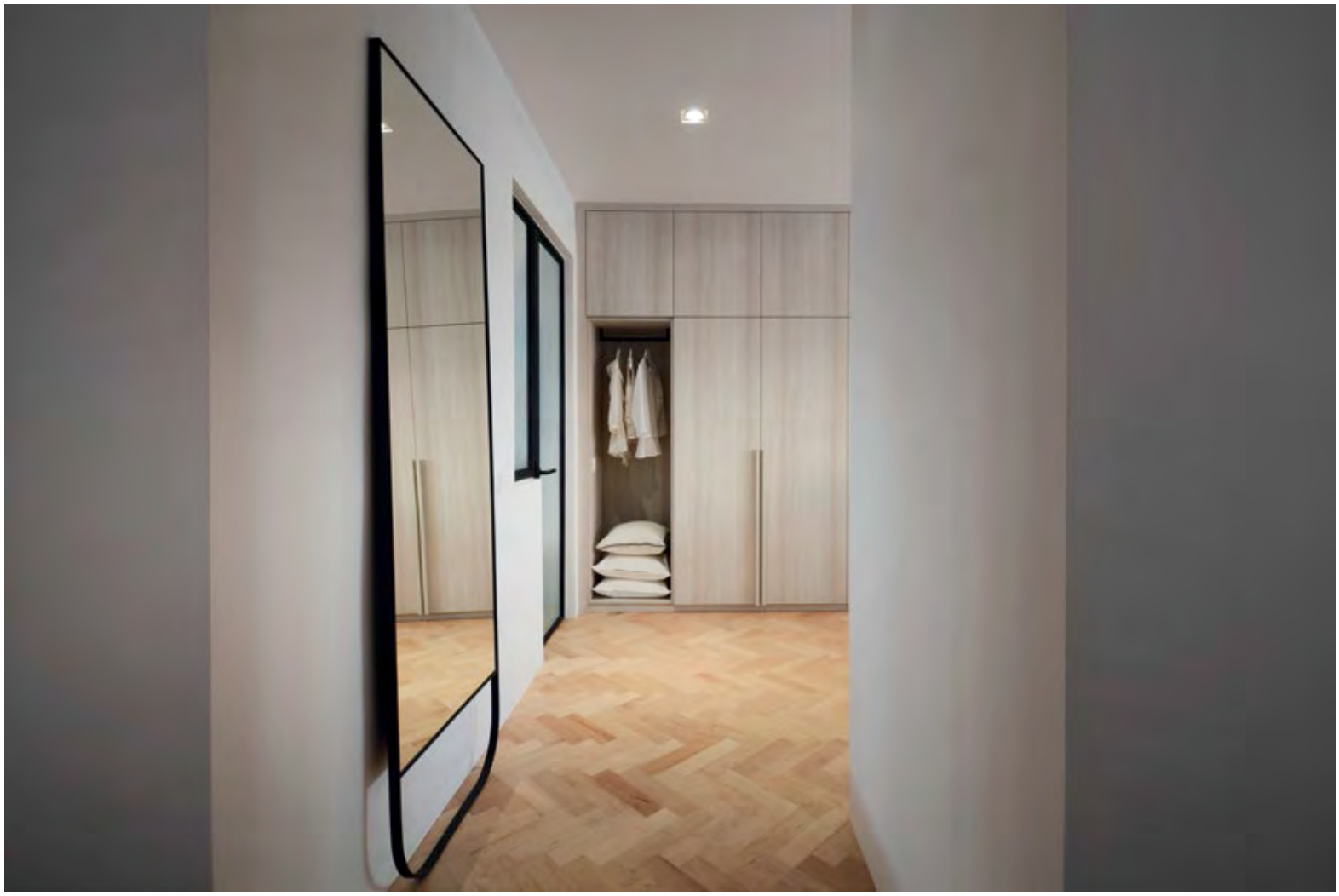
STUDY
A home office with a difference, this room is a stylish space to work in. An entire wall was taken down to make way for tinted laminated glass panels. Thin black frames on the glass panels make the space look modern and chic. We also love that the minimal black-and-white colour scheme has been repeated in this cool space.

Further imbuing a sense of lightness are the laminated tempered glass panels of the study, which sit at the top of the staircase. To accommodate floor-to-ceiling glass panels, an entire wall was taken down. Black-framed tinted glass panels were then installed to give the study a polished look. Inside the study, custom-design cabinetry was built for storage and display. The couple was rather particular about the look of the study because the wife works from home and wanted a sleek yet comfortable home office that doubles up as a private entertainment zone.

The upper level of this home is a private oasis for the homeowners. The master bedroom is a scene of calm with bleached wood laminates, soft hues and unfussy decor. It is joined to the walk-in wardrobe and dressing

WALK-IN WARDROBE
(left)
The walk-in wardrobe doubles up as a spacious dressing room that looks like it could belong in a hotel suite setting. This is all thanks to custom-design cabinetry and dressing table in muted tones that evoke exclusivity and class.

CONNECTING CORRIDOR
(below)
To convert the room adjacent to the master bedroom into a walk-in wardrobe, the design team repositioned the door and broke down a small portion of a wall to create a short walkway to connect the two rooms. This smart move not only minimises the amount of hacking, it also allows the homeowners the option to separate the two rooms at a later stage if they so wish.



DETAILS
Dual switches were installed at convenient points in the master bedroom so that the homeowners need not walk too far to switch lights on and off.

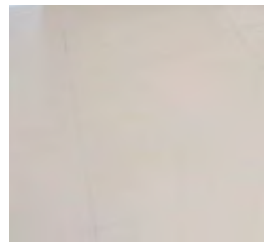
area by a narrow walkway. Here, the team from 0932 employed another clever solution. Instead of breaking an entire wall to form a walk-in wardrobe, they simply repositioned the entrance of the walk-in wardrobe, forming a corridor between the master bedroom and the walk-in wardrobe. This not only limits the amount of work that goes into creating a walk-in wardrobe, it also allows for the rooms to be separated at a later stage should the family need an additional room.

While the maisonette may appear simple and minimalist, there are plenty of thoughtful designs that make this home comfortable and luxurious. In fact, the design team did not skimp on quality, preferring to opt for homogeneous tiles on the flooring in the lower level and solid timber flooring for the staircase and upper level. Dual switches – a feature usually seen in hotels – were installed in the rooms for convenience. Furnishings were also carefully selected to reflect the couple's exquisite tastes, which veer towards the contemporary. A piece that the design-savvy couple picked out for the living room was the Stingray Rocking Chair designed by Thomas Pedersen. With that as the focal point, the design team simply selected complementary pieces in neutral tones to complete the picture. The result is a harmonious blend of soothing modern Scandinavian aesthetics jazzed up with sophisticated touches.

space enhancing *tip*

A coat of light coloured paint can dramatically make a room appear larger. This is because light from the window is bounced off the walls – and in this case, the floors as well. This home also appears airy thanks to the use of furniture with exposed legs and a "floating" TV console. Placing furniture away from the floor opens up the floor space, thus contributing to a sense of spaciousness.

MATERIALS



FOYER AND LIVING ROOM FLOORING
Large-format homogeneous tiles

BEDROOM FLOORING
Solid timber herringbone panels

MASTER BEDROOM HEADBOARD
Bleached wood laminate

BEAUTY IN *the details*

Bespoke touches and luxe finishes come together to create a truly picture-perfect penthouse home

TEXT Disa Tan **PHOTOS** Justin Loh
STYLING Adrian Heng, SpaceOne ID

4 ROOM PENTHOUSE UNIT | **1,819 sqf** | **RENO PERIOD 8 WEEKS** | **HOME TO**

LIVING AREA
Most of the furniture and soft furnishings here are custom-designed by designer Adrian. From the spoon-shaped dining chairs to the modern classic carpet, he believes that all these small matching design forms and colours make up the perfect big picture. An oval-shaped ottoman with white piping echoes the fine aesthetics of the high-back sofa and complements the elongated layout.

Madison Dining Chair from Sweetpea & Willow

DINING AREA

To unify the dining and living areas, a wall-mounted entertainment console and half-height cabinet clad the width of the space. Look closely to spot asymmetrical design details in a black outline amid the white matte laminate surface.

space saving *tip*

More countertop space was introduced for the kitchen in the form of this pull-out table.

Make no mistake about it; small spaces require big planning. Even though the square footage of this penthouse unit doesn't quite constitute as small and poky, the bedrooms and communal zones posed some serious space challenges for the Tay family. Says an initially concerned Mrs Tay: "We weren't sure what we could do with the space. It was very small."

The married couple and their two teenage children were actually moving out from their HDB flat unit – where the size of the rooms felt a lot more ample. They knew they had to rope in an expert to counter these space limitations and that was none other than veteran designer Adrian Heng. Having admired his works up close and personal at a colleague's place where he helmed the renovation, Mrs Tay was

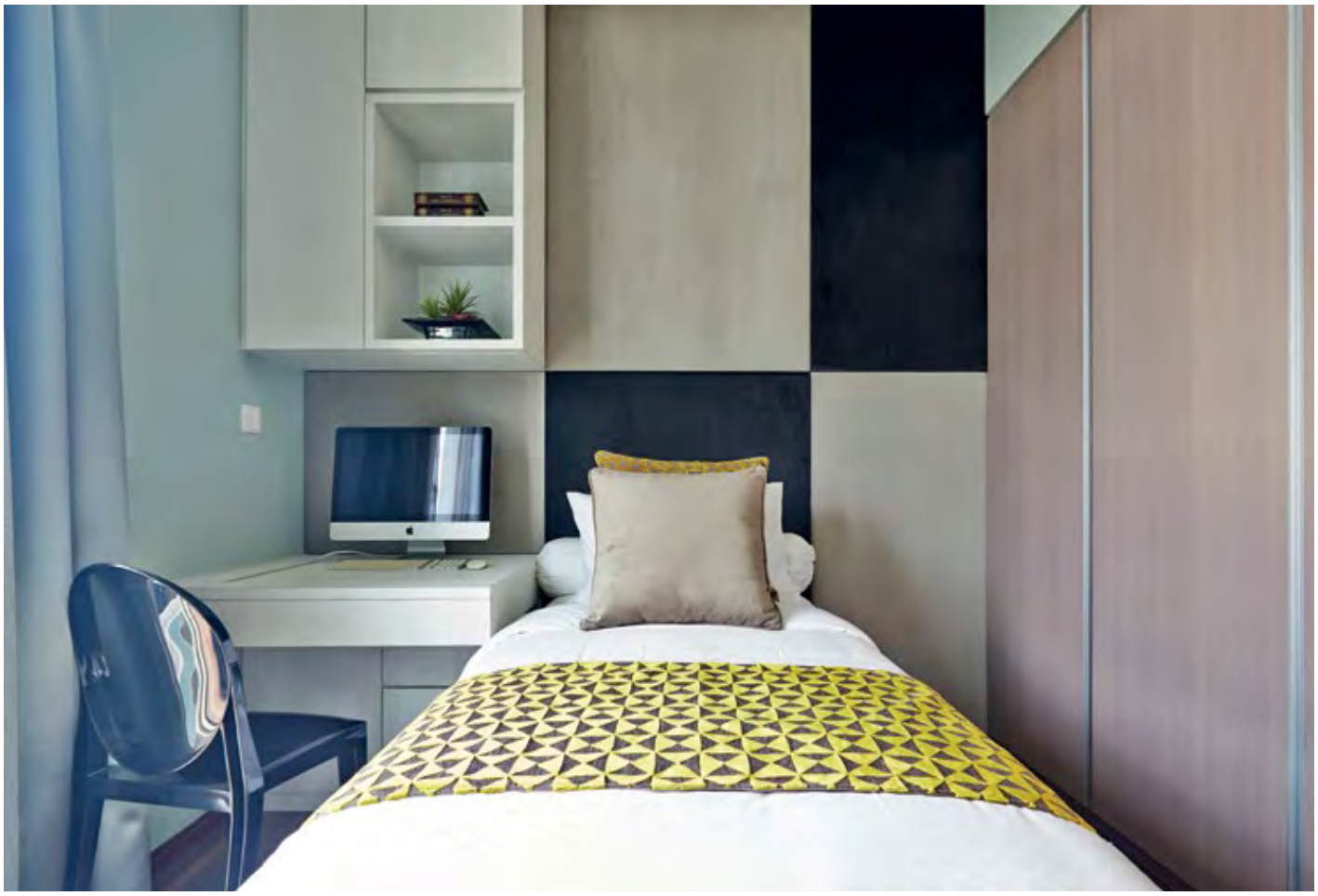
OUTDOOR TERRACE
(above)
The upper level outdoor area is decked with engineered wood flooring. The handsome-looking flooring is well complemented by a white outdoor furniture set which encourages rest and relaxation.

confident the designer from SpaceOne ID could rise to the challenge.

For the shared living and dining areas, Adrian reconfigured the original layout by swopping both areas. The living zone is now situated near to the enclosed kitchen and front entrance, while the dining zone sits next to the outdoor terrace. This new arrangement is the best of all worlds as the family can enjoy a space-friendly communal zone to entertain, lounge and dine in. When the sliding doors to the terrace are open, the

space saving *tip*

Pull-out drawers hidden at the base of this custom-built bed offer more room to stash away bedding.



homeowners have the option of dining alfresco. Adrian also extended the new living area by putting up a false wall to better accommodate the custom-designed high-back sofa. Louvered clear panels cast sideways on the wall let more daylight to flood into the otherwise dark stairwell.

Vertical storage, lots of it, is also imperative to making the most of the living and dining areas. Adrian worked that in by mounting an almost full-height entertainment cabinet and console, but left the bottom open to show off more floor area. In anti-colour white to further enhance the visual expanse of space, the laminate cabinets are joined with suspended half-height cabinets which anchor the dining zone. The cabinets also serve as countertop space for decorative ornaments. The rest of the wall is clad with mirrors for a classy and spacious-looking take.

The bedrooms of today's modern apartments and HDB BTO flats are notorious for their tiny stature and it is no different for this three-bedder home. Things got tricky in the junior master bedroom located at the lower storey as Adrian was required to fit in a workstation, wardrobe and a bed for the teenage son. One might expect the room to look like a tight squeeze with all these built-in amenities, but Adrian managed to glam it up into a cosy hotel-worthy suite with custom-designed soft furnishings.

Same goes for the upper level master bedroom and common bedroom. The master

SON'S BEDROOM
(above)
Fabric panelling and the overhead cabinet lead the eye upwards – making for a more spacious-looking bedroom. A shallow nook can be found at the side of the study desk; where the teenager can stash away bedside necessities.

MASTER BEDROOM
(opposite page)
This room emits a sense of modern grandeur with its well-appointed mix of surfaces. A sleek mirror placement coupled by high gloss accents and luxe leather touches create a look and feel reminiscent of a plush hotel suite.

DAUGHTER'S ROOM
An enchanting Tiffany Blue hue takes centrestage in this petite room while the rest of the elements are kept in neutral tones. Case in point: The feature wall fitted with mirror strips has a subtle, faux leather laminate finish.

> *"The trust we had in the expertise of Adrian paid off when we saw our done-up home for the first time. He exceeded all our expectations."*
>
> ***The Tays, homeowners***

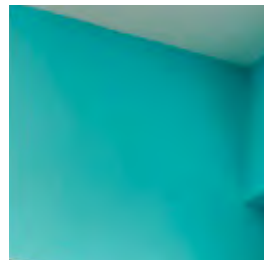
bedroom is decked out in luxe touches in the form of high gloss woodgrain and faux leather laminate finishes shrouding the main feature wall. The leather bed frame is custom-made as well and it offers pull-out drawers at the base for additional storage compartments. For the teenage daughter's bedroom, there was no room at all for even a work desk. Space-starved as the room might be, Adrian decided to distract the eye by choosing a beautiful Tiffany Blue wall tone. It worked like a charm and the occupant is so smitten with the gorgeous hue that she doesn't mind the petite space that much.

From initially worried to being overwhelmed by the stunning results of their brand new family home, the Tays' emotions and expectations took a 360-degree turn. It goes to show that the potential of small spaces shouldn't be overlooked. All it took was a space-savvy designer like Adrian to tap into its full potential and now the homeowners get to enjoy a polished-looking and highly functional living space.

MATERIALS

LIVING ROOM CARPET
Custom-designed by Adrian

OUTDOOR TERRACE FLOORING
Engineered wood & carpet grass



BEDROOM WALL
Tiffany Blue tone from Dulux

what do you want
YOUR DREAM HOME
to look like?

Tell us your thoughts for a
free design plan from one of our
interior design associates!

Visit **bit.do/SquareRoomsID** or
www.squarerooms.com.sg
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Or turn to p.134!

NATURE *of attraction*

To carve out a home intended for relaxation, the design and layout of this HDB apartment revolve around its tranquil window view

TEXT Disa Tan **PHOTOS** HUE D

HDB 3 ROOM FLAT | 635 sqf | BUDGET $70K WITHOUT FURNISHINGS | HOME TO QUEENSTOWN

FULL VIEW
Open shelving and a pristine white colour scheme evoke an airy and open atmosphere for this newly-established long layout. A structural column is paired with a full-height display cabinet with varying openings to lessen unsightly clutter. At the end of the space is a landscape painting done by HUE D to lead people further into the apartment.

DINING
(below)
A timber dining set for eight is enveloped by book shelving, creating a casual home library of sorts. It offers more functions for this area where the occupant can dine, host or get some work done.

RECONFIGURED SPACES
(opposite page)
While the dining zone has been given the biggest area in the home, the living room is sequestered into a corner to create a den-like space conducive for watching TV.

Amid the concrete jungle, waking up to lush green foliage sounds like a pipe dream. it is a luxury that seems only attainable if one lives in a verdant locale like Bali. But that is exactly what this HDB apartment is blessed with: tropical trees swaying gently beyond its windows. Says Vincent Goi, one of the three architect-designers from HUE D (a multi-disciplinary design studio specialising in architecture, landscape and graphic design) who helmed this project: "The owner bought this residence for just one reason. She liked the lush, green trees that can be seen outside the very last room and decided this is the place she was looking for. Everything else can be worked around it."

However, the existing layout clashed with the school teacher's lifestyle requirements. Vincent, together with his colleagues Catherine Low and Vernie Kon, sought to create a more "light-friendly" space conducive for relaxation and contemplation. The team named this project "Journey of an Apartment". Fitting, since the new layout comprises a straight and elongated area – where most of the

boundary walls in the home were hacked away. Daylight streaming from the end of the room can now move freely into all corners of the space.

The major overhaul includes reconfiguring the living, dining and kitchen areas as well. The most conventional arrangement would be to have the living area nearest to the front entrance, but the designers turned things around. They relocated the dining space to the front which covers the biggest area of the home. With that, the homeowner has a more spacious dining area. Vincent adds: “She can read, work and talk while having a sandwich and cappuccino.”

From the dining area, a straight and light-filled path leads right into the heart of the space: the open-concept kitchen. It is partially hidden by a full-height divider with open compartments for displaying ornaments and books. The seamless, whitewashed appearance of the kitchen counters is contrasted by the bold, slanted striped patterns on the backsplash. This is a recurring design motif which works well for the rest of the home: crisp white backdrops that bring out the brilliance of strong patterns.

DINING + LIVING
The configuration of the living and dining areas were swopped and the living room now occupies the dining area, which is ideal for TV watching and a snooze. The dining covers the biggest area of the home – an unusual arrangement but it suits the homeowner’s interests such as Lego constructing, enjoying a cuppa and marking papers just fine.

Aalto chair 69 (turquoise) from Artek

LIVING
(left)
Deemed as the “relaxation” space, this cosy nook follows the fuss-free white palette which defines the apartment. The HUE D team custom-designed the TV console which matches the shoe cabinet near the front entrance.

BREAKFAST COUNTER
(right)
Previously a utility room, this open-plan area now hosts an extended counter which overlooks the tranquil scenery outside. Sky planters (available online at Naiise) for air plants are hung in a similar order with the pendant lights to create an interesting juxtaposition.

KITCHEN
(below)
Though the cooking space may host a space-efficient single wall layout, it is fully functional and loaded with all the necessary appliances. The tempered glass backsplash with slanted stripes echoes the window grilles, front gate and the stainless steel handle of the bathroom glass door.

"We always try to question the norm and our clients appreciate that. Without such investigation and questioning, design becomes superficial and does not go very far."

Vincent Goi

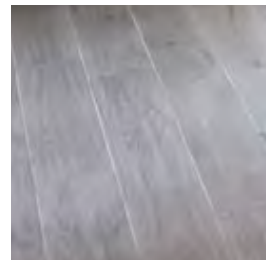
BEDROOM
(left)
Punctuated by tasteful accents such as the mismatched hanging lightbulbs and an oil painting, the bedroom exudes a chic ambiance without trying too hard. The wardrobe has both closed compartments and an open section – a practical solution for airing clothes that can be worn again.

VANITY + LAUNDRY AREA
(below)
The sink counter, laundry amenities and additional storage are neatly aligned on the left side of the wall. From the front entrance, the bathroom remains hidden from view.

The transition from the communal areas to the private zones is clear-cut. A prelude of the things to come would be the living area, wedged between the two bedrooms. With minimal light source in comparison to the bright kitchen and dining area, this den-like nook is perfect for TV watching and catnaps on the sofa.

At the end of the apartment lies the extended counter – used as a breakfast counter – which overlooks the window and a landscape painting. The painting holds a special purpose. It beckons one to head towards it after catching a glimpse from the front entrance. Vincent says: “Here, one can finally see the details of the painting which is inspired from the bird’s eye view of the residence amongst the lush greenery.”

MATERIALS



FLOORING
Homogeneous tiles

DINING ROOM SHELVING
White laminates

KITCHEN BACKSPLASH
Tempered glass with diagonal patterns

FRESH *perspective*

A dreary resale apartment was given a new lease of life after a complete overhaul

TEXT Ho Pei Ying **PHOTOS** Amber

Seeing how clean and bright this home is now, you wouldn't believe that it was once dark and decrepit. Original photos of the apartment reveal mouldy walls, tiles that were chipped off, floors with stubborn stains and parquet flooring that had dulled with age. Not only is this flat very old – its lifespan exceeds 30 years – it was also rented out previously so it wasn't kept in the best condition. But homeowners Gabriel and Gigi were nonetheless very keen on the unit because it is set in a very convenient location.

HDB | **5 ROOM FLAT** | **1,270 sqf** | **RENO PERIOD 10 WEEKS** | **HOME TO TAMPINES**

OVERALL LOOK

Awash in neutral colours like white, grey and brown to offset against the strong hue of the solid wood flooring, the home is revived from its original dark and dreary interiors into a bright, yet restful space. As it did not make sense to divide up the spacious flat with internal walls, designer Wai Keong decided to go with an open-plan layout. To demarcate the space, ottomans are used for the living area, while the dining room is defined by bell-shaped pendants.

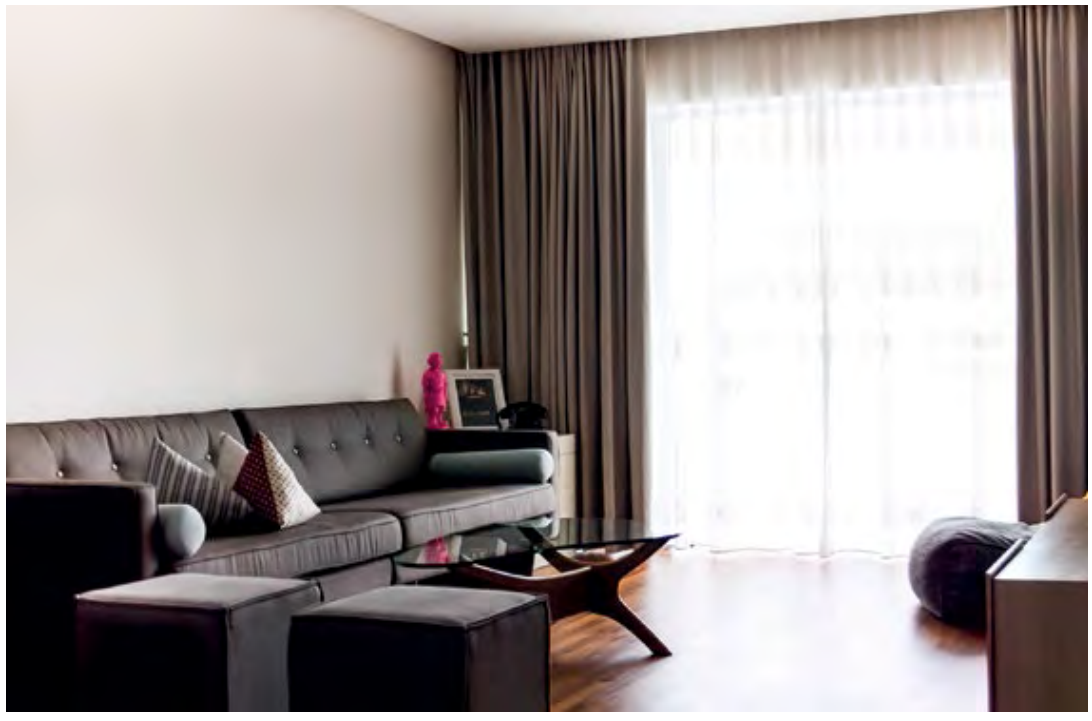
Bestlite pendant lamp from Danish Design

DINING ROOM
(above)
Featuring a dining table with a rustic tabletop that looks like barn doors, the dining area isn't simply for meals – it also acts as a natural workspace thanks to the daylight streaming in from the windows. Just behind is a custom-built shelf with open and closed compartments storing knick-knacks and displaying market finds sourced from overseas.

With the help of designer Ho Wai Keong from interior firm Amber, who was recommended to them by a friend, the young couple got to work to turn it into a place they could call home. The initial meeting took place at the designer's house, and it was here that the pair took inspiration for their own home. They wanted to replicate the same simple, clean lines and light colour palette as Wai Keong's apartment, which the designer was happy to accommodate. Beyond that, they left him to work out the design details.

Because the original home was in such a bad state, it needed a complete overhaul before Wai Keong could begin his design. All the walls were re-plastered, full carpentry works were fitted in the kitchen and bathroom, a false ceiling was created in the communal zones, the parquet flooring was removed and replaced with Burmese teak flooring, and the entire home was given a fresh coat of white paint.

The strong tone of the solid wood flooring was one of the reasons why Wai Keong went with a decidedly neutral palette for the home. The space is set mainly in brown, grey and white, with the occasional black accent. Decorative pieces sourced from trips to neighbouring countries inject life, personality and vibrancy to the space.



LIVING ROOM
(left)
One of the things you will notice in the living room is the different types of seating available. There is a main sofa, the multipurpose ottomans and a beanbag for lounging. They not only accommodate for different occasions, but also make the space more interesting.

DRY KITCHEN
(below)
A bar counter was done up in the dry kitchen for preparing quick and light meals. Gigi also uses this space to bake. To keep things organised, large appliances like the oven and refrigerator are compartmentalised.

One of the couple's favourite spots in the home is their dining area, which is used not only for eating but also as a workstation for when they work from home. The main attraction here is the dining table from Egg3, a unique piece chosen because its tabletop looks like double barn doors. Behind, a white shelf was custom made to display keepsakes. The design takes after a shelf Gigi found online, but as the piece was beyond their budget, the couple asked Wai Keong to design something similar for them.

WET KITCHEN
To keep fumes away from the communal areas, Wai Keong fixed up sliding doors dividing the wet and dry areas of the kitchen. The area here is a picture of stylish modernity with cabinets swathed in a slate grey laminate. The slight sheen finish gives the space extra panache.

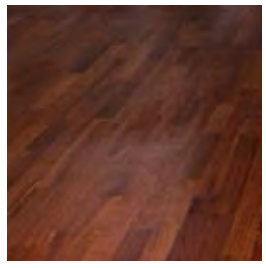
MASTER BEDROOM
(left)
Like the rest of the home, the couple's sleeping quarters has little embellishments. To maximise the most of this room, the couple bought a bed that allowed for under bed storage.

BALCONY
(below)
Gabriel and Gigi spend their weekend mornings having breakfast in this cosy and chic balcony. Inspired from houses they've seen at hipster enclave Tiong Bahru, the Peranakan patterned flooring provides a great visual impact, contrasting with the simple patio furniture.

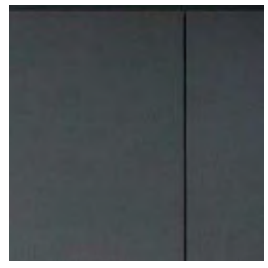
Another notable space is the kitchen, which is separated into wet and dry zones. Kept open, like the rest of the communal areas in the home, it has a functional, unfussy design made chic thanks to the slate grey cabinets and homogeneous floor tiles. Perhaps most thoughtful are the sliding doors between the wet and dry kitchen, which were added by Wai Keong to keep the cooking fumes away from the rest of the apartment.

There is little the couple would change in this fresh, modern space. And with a baby on the way, they couldn't ask for a better home to welcome the new addition to their family.

MATERIALS



LIVING AND DINING ROOMS FLOORING
Burmese teak



KITCHEN CABINETS
Slate grey laminate with sheen finish

BALCONY FLOORING
Peranakan handmade cement tiles

REGAL SERENITY

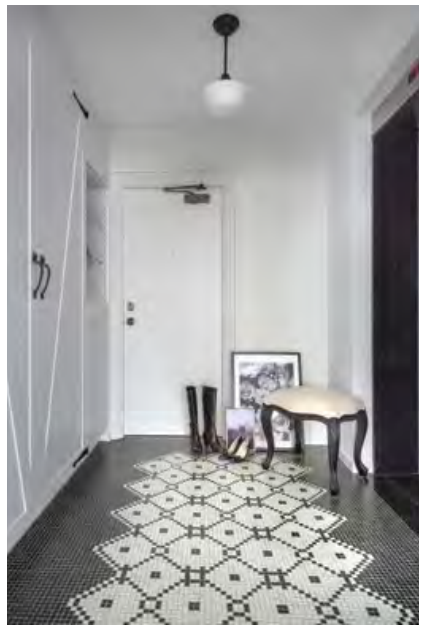
The classical theme is given modern and industrial touches with subtle textures and a dreamy palette of grey and white

FACT FILE

SPACE 3-room condominium unit
SIZE 1,300 square feet
LOCATION River Valley
HOME TO Two working professionals
DESIGNER three-d conceptwerke
RENO PERIOD Three months

As a dynamic interior design firm, three-d conceptwerke conceptualises three-dimensional urban landscapes and architectural spaces in an unconventional manner. Armed with a team of creative individuals, they seek to create an integrated space where the interior and exterior flow harmoniously together. Taking environmental considerations into account, the aim is to materialise a distinctive space that is both spiritually and visually ideal without sacrificing functions.

> **HALLWAY**
When inhabitants and guests alike step into the home, they are greeted by the smooth underfoot of interesting glass mosaics. A simple white shoe cabinet plays with lines and textures to add a touch of visual interest.



#IN THE DETAILS

Matching the detailing at the base of the kitchen island with the rest of the cabinetry creates a design consistency in the home.

< **LIVING + DINING**
The combined communal space is an oasis of calm with a spacious set-up and muted colours. Homogeneous floor tiles in a pale woody grey complement the white wall mouldings. Classy ornaments are displayed in nooks and corners which fill the room with an eclectic feel.

^ **BEDROOM**
Less is more in this elegant boudoir. With hanging pendant lights flanking each side of the plush-looking bed, the symmetrical set-up ushers in a warm mood.

< **BATHROOM**
By going with a concrete counter topped with a bright blue tiled surface, the effect offers a burst of visual surprise in this neutral-coloured bathroom.

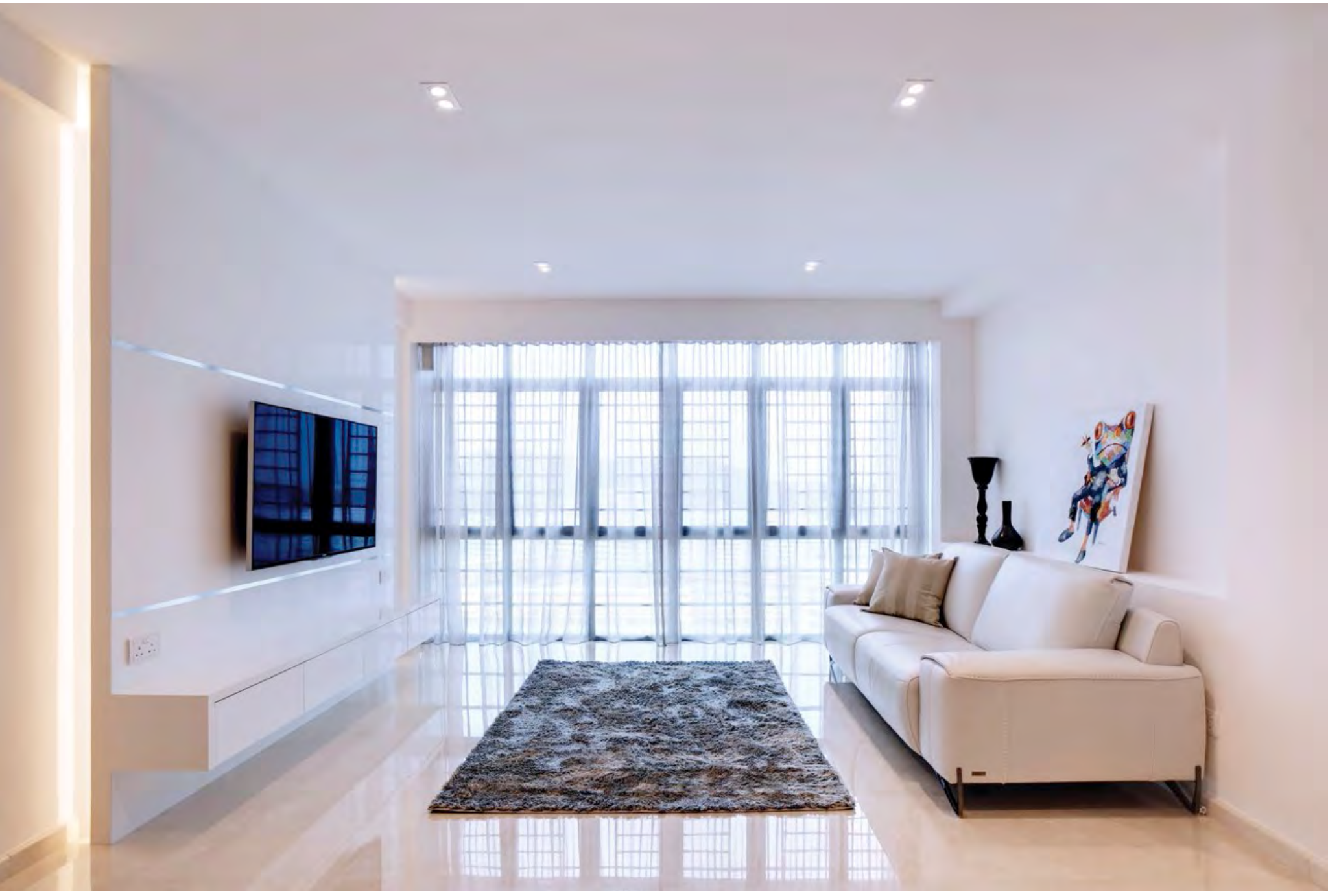
< **KITCHEN**
A clean-cut setting of white cabinetry and quartz countertops in the kitchen welcomes guests to mingle with the host in this open-concept layout.

three-d conceptwerke

24 Eng Hoon Street Singapore 169774
Tel: 6293 8001 **Fax:** 6294 8001 **Email:** enquiries@three-d-conceptwerke.com
Web: www.three-d-conceptwerke.com

MINIMAL BEAUTY

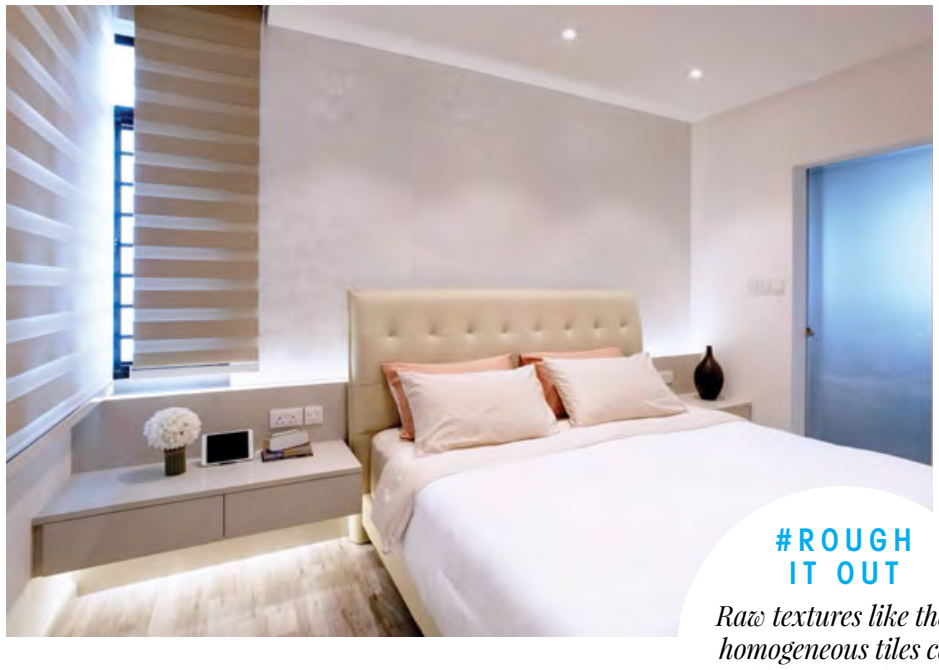
Keeping things classic with crisp lines, neutral tones and understated accents



FACT FILE

SPACE	3-room resale condominium unit
SIZE	1,000 square feet
LOCATION	Chestervale, Bangkit Road
HOME TO	A family of four
DESIGNER	Daria Tan from The Orange Cube
RENO PERIOD	Three months

Inspired and motivated to provide a complete package of services, The Orange Cube is equipped to take clients through design conception to building completion. As a result of this all-encompassing dedication, the company has amassed an impressive portfolio in both residential and commercial projects ever since its establishment 10 years ago. With their can-do attitude and enthusiasm in design and offering impeccable service, it's no wonder the company has gained a firm foothold in the interior design scene.



< MASTER BEDROOM

To introduce a subtle visual interest, a large grey painting is placed inconspicuously behind the bed as a feature wall for the master bedroom. Another key design is the full-height wardrobe at the foot of the bed, which is customised with handles instead of sliding doors.

#ROUGH IT OUT

Raw textures like these homogeneous tiles can add a nice industrial contrast to an otherwise bland bathroom.

< LIVING

Though sparsely decorated, this living room gives off a cosy vibe thanks to the warm palette, bright marble flooring and cushy furnishings. The usage of acrylic panels for all carpentry works adds a high-gloss effect to the space, which is something regular laminate can't easily achieve.

< DINING

Transparent fixtures are apparent in the dining area, such as the orb-shaped pendant light and the interesting glass enclosure adjacent to it. Combining the bomb shelter and utility room into one, this newly expanded space is now a cosy corner for the homeowners to indulge in some entertainment after a day's work.

^ STUDY

While living rooms are the focal point of most homes, the homeowners here preferred to put the spotlight on the study. Spacious enough for the whole family, it includes two long desks and a row of cabinets along the bay window, which offers an abundance of space for luggage and other miscellaneous items.

THE ORANGE CUBE PTE LTD

14 Arumugam Road, #01-03 Lion Building C, Singapore 409959
Tel: 6337 7277 **Fax:** 6337 7570 **Email:** enquiry@theorangecube.com
Web: theorangecube.com f The Orange Cube

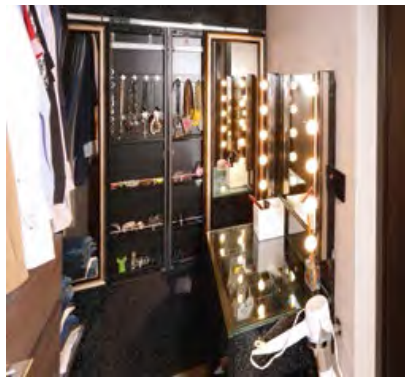
UNDER ONE ROOF

This well-designed home meets the needs of not just six different individuals, but across three generations harmoniously

FACT FILE

SPACE	4-bedroom penthouse
SIZE	2,200 square feet
LOCATION	RiverParc Residence, Punggol Drive
HOME TO	A family of six
DESIGNER	Vincent Wong from Darwin Interior
RENO PERIOD	One month

Whether you're looking for a simple design update, or a complete home makeover, Darwin Interior has the expertise to meet your needs. Their designs are always "human-oriented", emphasising innovative ways of catering creative designs to fit your lifestyle. From conceptualisation to conclusion, the Darwin Interior team believes that customers are always the top priority.



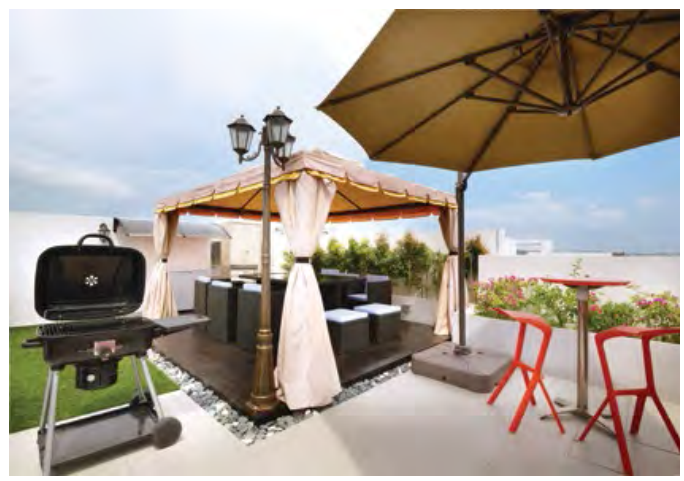
> **MASTER BEDROOM**
The sleeping quarters for the parents boast plenty of full-height storage space, including open shelves for the wife to showcase her collection of handbags. Also located in the bedroom is a walk-in wardrobe, featuring an accessories display cabinet. But the scene-stealer is undoubtedly the vanity, lined with light bulbs to infuse a retro vibe.

#THE GREAT DIVIDE

A partition in between the two single beds maintains privacy for the grandparents and doubles as a charging station.

< **LIVING**
As the living area is blessed with a lofty ceiling, designer Vincent Wong decided to capitalise on the height advantage by constructing an elevated library catwalk and added a few grand chandeliers to boot. Cubbies are tucked within each step of the staircase to provide extra storage.

v **KITCHEN**
Sharing a common space with the living room is the dry kitchen. However, what's particularly striking here is the glossy exterior of the wet kitchen, which is made up of crystal laminates to create a sleek, mirror-like effect.



< **ROOFTOP GARDEN**
The rooftop to this apartment is transformed into an outdoor entertaining space for the multigenerational household to host celebratory events. It comes complete with lush greenery, a BBQ pit, and patio furniture with a canopy overhead to provide shade from the heat.

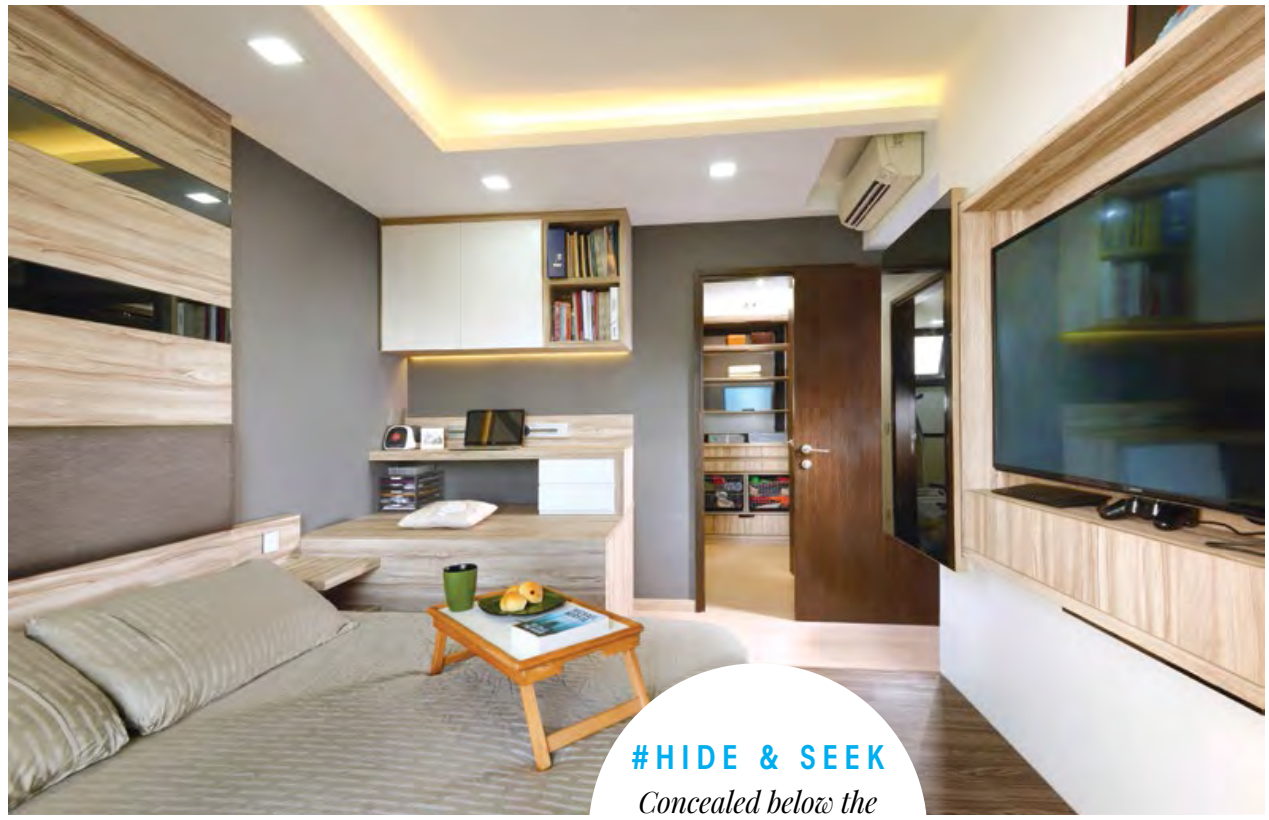
FORM & FUNCTION

It's all about balancing design with functionality
in this modern dwelling

FACT FILE

SPACE 3-bedroom penthouse
SIZE 1,800 square feet
LOCATION RiverParc Residence, Punggol Drive
HOME TO A family of four
DESIGNER Vincent Wong from Darwin Interior
RENO PERIOD One month

> **MASTER BEDROOM**
Straying away from the monochrome theme in the communal zones, the master bedroom takes on a predominantly wood-toned design. Instead of a conventional study area, designer Vincent Wong constructed a raised platform that ingeniously acts a seating solution.



#HIDE & SEEK
Concealed below the study table is additional storage space to keep bulky luggage away from sight.

< **LIVING**
From the CraftStone brick wall at the piano area to the dark wood laminate panels, the play of textures in this modern industrial scheme is what really makes this home pop. The space features an upper-storey library accessible only via a ladder.

> **DINING**
Adding a bit of Scandinavian flair to the mix, the dining area is swathed in shades of white and pops of black. Looks aside, much emphasis is placed on practicality as well. In particular, the customised pull-out dining set can be neatly stowed away when not in use, thereby freeing up floor space.

^ **BEDROOM**
Due to space constraints, devising a layout that can accommodate a bed, a study area and a wardrobe had been quite a challenge for Vincent. To make use of every square inch, he connected the study table to the side of the bed to prevent the room from looking overly congested.

DARWIN INTERIOR

70 Bendemeer Road, #01-01 Luzerne, Singapore 339940 (Main Branch) **Tel:** 6396 8558
Block 634, #01-100 Bukit Batok Central, Singapore 650634 (West Branch) **Tel:** 6786 8558
5 Tampines Central 6, Telepark, #01-12, Singapore 529482 (East Branch) **Tel:** 6781 8558
Email: sales@darwininterior.com.sg **Web:** www.darwininterior.com.sg Darwin Interior

SIMPLE PLAN

A fresh, streamlined scheme keeps this home looking sleek and chic

FACT FILE

SPACE 5-room HDB unit
SIZE 1,300 square feet
LOCATION Marine Drive
HOME TO A family of four
DESIGNER Renozone
RENO PERIOD Eight weeks

The team of designers at Renozone prides themselves on creating long-term relationships with their customers. One of the main reasons why they manage to cultivate such amiable ties is because the company takes pride in all the projects that they have completed. Renozone guarantees quality workmanship and services, making customer satisfaction their top priority.

< KITCHEN

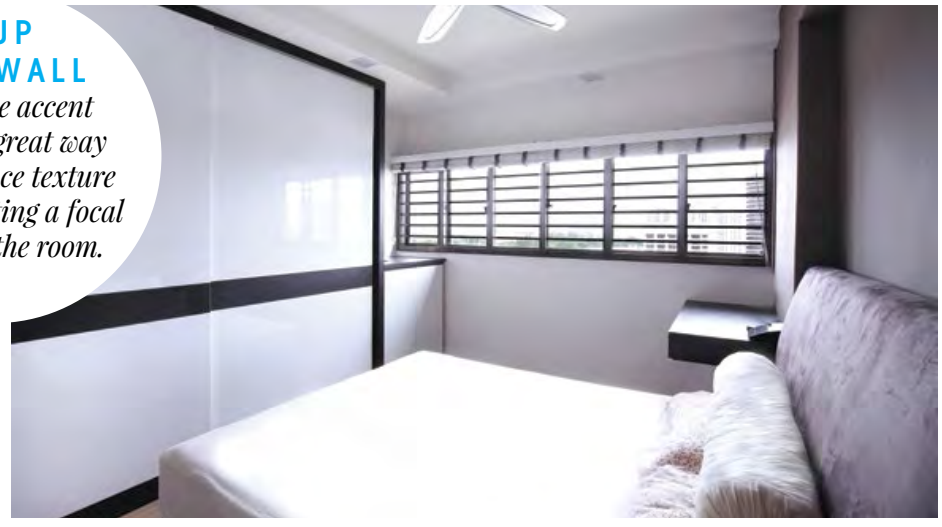
Exposed pipes may be welcomed in industrial decor, but it's a no-go in this household. Initially an old flat with hoards of unsightly pipes, Renozone got rid of these eyesores by concealing them behind built-in cupboards and light installations. Completing it with a black-and-white aesthetic, this kitchen looks better than new.

> BATHROOM

Looking more like a bathroom in a boutique hotel than in a HDB flat, this space is given a modern facelift with a mix of ceramic and homogeneous tiles. Similarly in the kitchen, the team boxed up all the chunky pipes and kept the look pleasing to the eye.

#UP THE WALL

A unique accent wall is a great way to introduce texture while creating a focal point in the room.



< LIVING

Simplicity is the key to this apartment's zero-clutter decorating style. Despite being grounded in a minimalist palette, the embossed patterns on the TV feature wall prevent the area from looking boring.

^ MASTER BEDROOM

The master bedroom is a pure, clean-cut affair. Noting the homeowners' requirement for ample storage options, the team adhered to their request with a full-height wardrobe that easily takes up an entire wall.

RENOZONE INTERIOR DESIGN HOUSE

1 Jalan Klapa, Singapore 199313
Tel: 6292 3345 **Fax:** 6292 3045 **Email:** admin@renozone.com.sg
Web: www.renozone.com.sg

VISUAL SPLENDOUR

Despite the pared-down colour scheme, this condominium unit is still brimming with all the creature comforts one could imagine

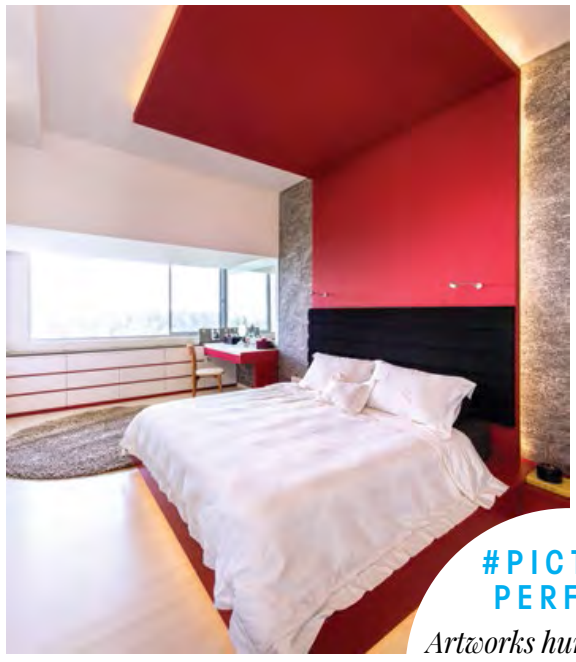
FACT FILE

SPACE	4-bedroom condominium unit
SIZE	2,000 square feet
LOCATION	Peach Garden
HOME TO	A family of four
DESIGNER	John Foo from Rezt & Relax
RENO PERIOD	Three months

Founded in 2001, Rezt & Relax is the brainchild of design partners Wilson Teh and John Foo. Their portfolio includes a wide spectrum of residential and commercial projects. The team at Rezt & Relax believes in offering creative design solutions and trend forecasts to help owners relax and unwind in the comfort of their homes.

v MASTER BEDROOM

A wall-to-ceiling headboard in a rich red shade draws eyes upwards, which is juxtaposed against the stucco grey feature wall and illuminated with warm cove lights. Lined along the windows is a stretch of drawers for the couple to store their fashion accessories.



#PICTURE PERFECT

Artworks hung on hooks and connected with strings create a gallery-like appeal for the space.

> KITCHEN

Doing away with opaque barriers, the kitchen adopts glass windows and doors to bring in more natural light. Here, the monochrome palette is accented with splashes of red, injecting a fun personality to the place without being overwhelming. Glass is applied on the surface of the laminate backsplash and cabinet doors to give the kitchen a gleam.

< STUDY

Also part of the master bedroom, the new study is erected after hacking down an existing wall in between. Airy and uncluttered, this area boasts an all-white scheme enlivened with bright pops of blue.

< LIVING

This may be a home for four, but having guests over frequently warrants a more expansive and opulent design. Hence, designer John Foo created a two-part living room: one that feels like a modern sitting room with an enormous couch and an eye-catching wall displaying framed art, complemented by a cosy spot with a TV and daybed at the bay window for lounging.

REZT & RELAX INTERIOR

No. 33 Ubi Avenue 3 #02-09, Vertex Tower B (Access Lift Lobby B), Singapore 408868
Tel: 6348 7787 **Fax:** 6348 7797 **Email:** customer@reztnrelax.com
Web: www.reztnrelax.com f reztnrelax

MAKEOVER MAGIC

A major overhaul turns a boring old flat into a modern, liveable home that defies its size, making it perfect for hosting

FACT FILE

SPACE 5-room HUDC flat unit
SIZE 1,300 square feet
LOCATION Neptune Court
HOME TO A couple
DESIGNER Brim Design
RENO PERIOD 10 weeks

With their creative know-how, the designers at Brim Design pride themselves on their flair for practical, everyday ideas and a keen eye for design trends. This boutique interior firm caters to residential and commercial projects of all kinds to suit most budgets. Brim Design attributes their success in the creative field to their skills in building and nurturing meaningful and lasting relationships with their customers.

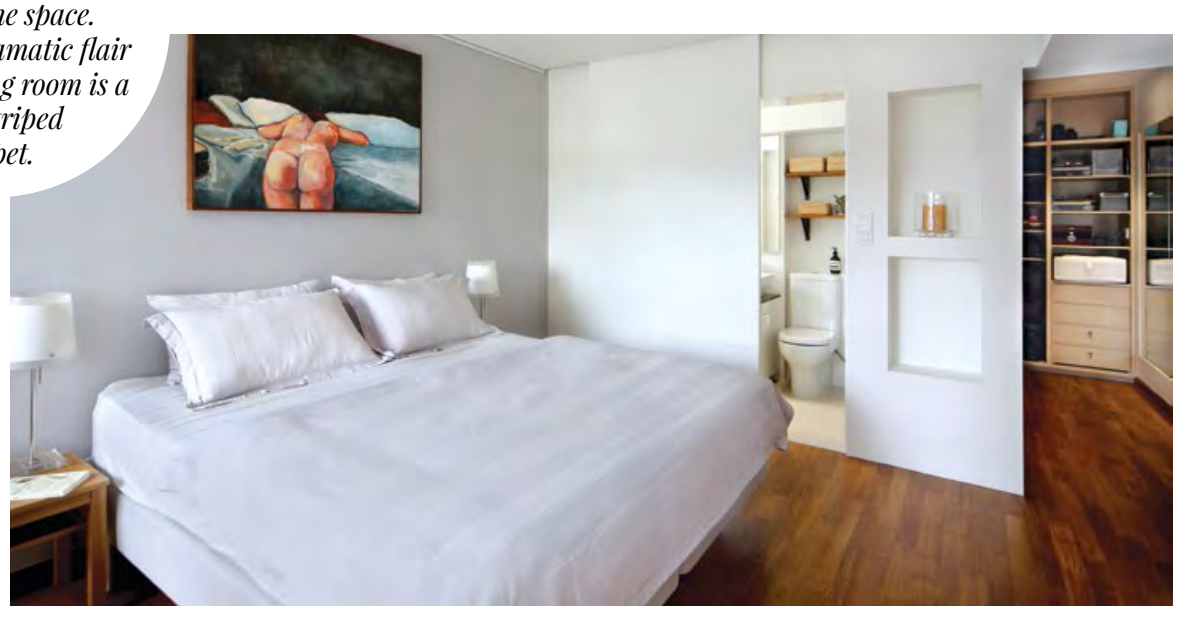
< **HALL**
As frequent hosts, the homeowners wanted a place that was conducive for having friends over. Brim Design thus opted for an open-plan scheme, which gave the couple a versatile, people-friendly space. Sofas in the living room were also specifically set up for intimate conversations.

v **DUAL ENTRANCE**
The hacking of the walls made way for a pivoting door system that creates a dual entrance to the master bedroom and closet.

< **MASTER BATHROOM**
The expanded en-suite is an oasis of calm with a soothing palette of grey and white. Woven baskets atop the floating wooden shelves provide the perfect catch-all for bathroom accessories.

v **MASTER BEDROOM**
Two original bedrooms were completely sacrificed in order to create an extended master suite, complete with a walk-in wardrobe and en-suite bathroom. The result is nothing short of stunning.

#MAKE A STATEMENT
A large rug helps to anchor the space. Giving a dramatic flair to this dining room is a bold striped carpet.



BRIM DESIGN PTE LTD

9 Marshall Road, Singapore 424845
Tel: (65) 6299 5733 **Fax:** (65) 6299 5676 **Email:** info@brimdesign.com.sg
Web: www.brimdesign.com.sg

BLACK & BOLD

Major design elements of the industrial style are mixed together with a clean slate to create a strong, definitive look for this bachelor's pad

FACT FILE

SPACE 5-room HDB flat unit
SIZE 1,184 square feet
LOCATION Hougang
HOME TO A bachelor
DESIGNER Danny Chong from Hue Concept
RENO PERIOD Eight weeks

Turning dream homes into reality, Hue Concept is all about delivering a Midas touch of design flair to abodes. Elevating style to another level, they also endeavor to create homes of functionality to better the lives of those living in it. So, if you're looking for style and substance, you can entrust your living space in the good hands of Hue Concept.

< STUDY

Making good use of the spacious communal space, designer Danny Chong from Hue Concept managed to create a full-fledged workstation. The bold design feature of exposed track lighting with custom-built pipe shelving lets this area stand out on its own.

#SHELF LIFE

These storage shelves are both functional and complementary to the overall design scheme.

< LIVING

The brick wall, which is made up of cultured stone, carves out a cosy feature spot for relaxing. Nostalgic-themed decor elements on the wall were then put together by the homeowner to complete the look.

< DINING

A distinctive visual point, the Tom Dixon-inspired pendant lamps shroud the dining room, while the dangling wires add further visual interest. This organised mess complements the other design elements in the shared communal space.

HUE CONCEPT INTERIOR DESIGN PTE LTD

No 33 Ubi Ave 3 #01-25, Vertex Building, Singapore 408868
Tel: (65) 6636 7202 **Fax:** (65) 6636 7205 **Email:** askhue@hueconcept.com
Web: www.hueconcept.com

MIX & MATCH

A marriage of industrial elements and Scandinavian influences turns this apartment into a cosy love nest for two

FACT FILE

SPACE 3-room Executive Condominium unit
SIZE 1,000 square feet
LOCATION Pasir Ris
HOME TO A couple
DESIGNER Alvin Ang from Prozfile
RENO PERIOD Six weeks

Prozfile is a dynamic design establishment that firmly believes good design emerges from the smooth communication channel and relationship between clients and their designers. The highly motivated design trio aims to achieve the concept of "a Living space" that is not just aesthetically beautiful, but a reflection of their clients' lifestyles and personalities. With their unique approach to design while conceptualising highly polished yet simplistic homes, Prozfile is the perfect choice for people who want something different and are not afraid to stand out in the crowd.

#GRAPHIC MAP

Spruce up a bare wall with decorative decals. These typography stickers are collected every time the couple visits a new country.

< BALCONY

Not much renovation was done here, but more effort was put into furnishing it as a tranquil nook for lounging. Decorating it with comfy outdoor furniture and potted plants, the balcony is given a new lease of life.

< STUDY

The study area employs a wood-dominated theme, but sneaks in a hint of urban chic with spider cord pendant lights. Maximising the interior, plenty of shelving units are installed to allow the homeowners to store their books and ornaments.

< LIVING

Embracing the industrial approach doesn't mean it has to look cold and metallic. Bringing in nature-inspired touches, such as the earth-hued couch and wooden beams on the ceiling, adds a down-to-earth feel to the room. The homeowners also envisioned a space dedicated for their wine collection. Designer Alvin Ang designed a wine rack, a bar counter and a full-height shelf to display their vino, which look stunning contrasted against the CraftStone brick wall.

PROZFILE PTE LTD

1 Starlight Road, Singapore 217754
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Web: www.prozfile.com.sg

SQUAREROOMS

HOME SEARCH

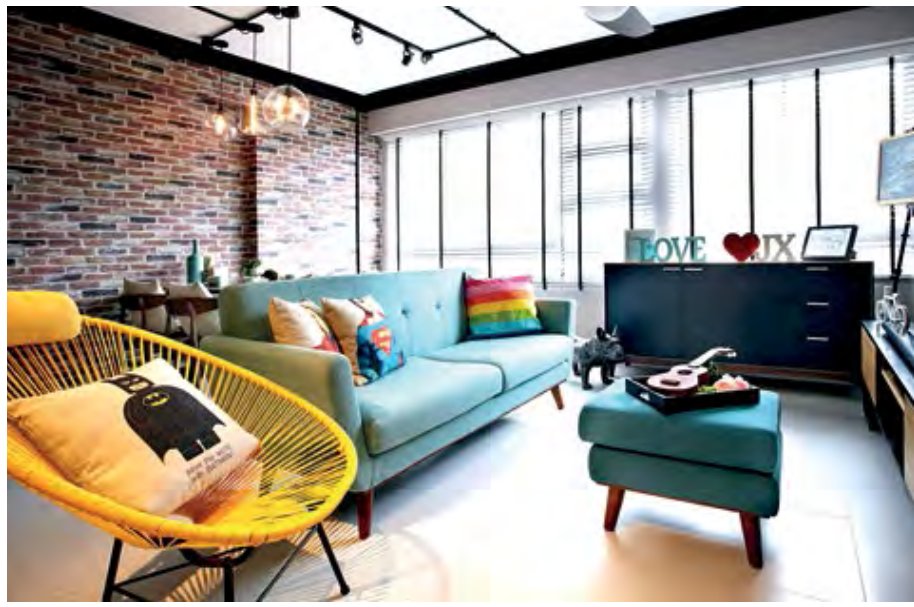
MY RENO · MY STYLE · MY HOME

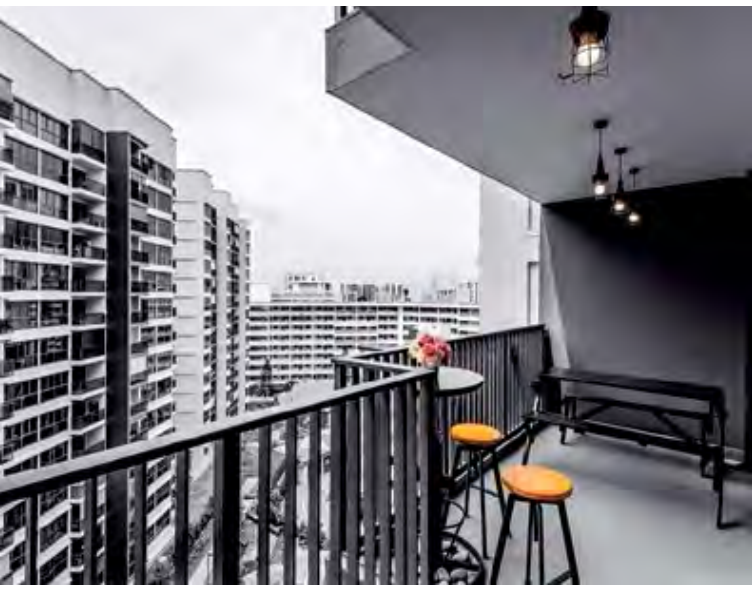
2015

SQUAREROOMS HOME SEARCH 2015 has officially come to a close! A big thank you to our readers who have shared their beautiful and inspiring homes with us, and for the overwhelming response we received for our first-ever Home Search.

HERE'S A SNEAK PEEK AT SOME OF THE SUBMISSIONS WE'VE RECEIVED...

Entries will now be judged, and the winners will be announced in our October issue.





READERS' CHOICE AWARD

Vote for your favourite home and stand a chance to win fabulous prizes!

Look out for details on the **SquareRooms Facebook page**

Voting period:
9 - 30 September 2015

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SQUAREROOMS HOME SEARCH
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We would also like to thank our sponsors and supporting partners for making the SquareRooms Home Search 2015 such a success.

ARISTON

Ariston Thermo's water heaters under the Andris series come with titanium enamel tank protection, a feature exclusive to the brand. With it, the inner tank durability is enhanced and more energy is saved, translating to cost savings to the users. The Andris R model comes with a copper heating element, which makes it not only longer lasting than stainless steel, but also more hygienic in its water output thanks to an antimicrobial effect. Users can feel safe as the water heaters are guaranteed with Ariston's Total Safety System, which has two safety levels and a pressure relief valve to regulate the tank pressure. The water heaters have been certified by international safety organisations, with the world's strictest quality and safety standards such as IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) and SS (Singapore Standards).

WMF

The WMF Internationally patented Cromargan Protect cutlery is scratch-proof, acid-resistant and extremely resilient against all kinds of wear and tear. Even with frequent use and cleaning in the dishwasher, the cutlery looks as good as new. This means that polished surfaces will stay gleaming, while matte surfaces will look the same even after prolonged use. Defined by soft rounded contours, the cutlery series is dishwasher safe. Cromargan Protect was awarded the material vision prize for innovative materials by the Frankfurt trade fair.

Conventional stainless steel

Cromargan Protect

SONOS

Create an immersive soundscape in your home with three of Sonos wireless Hi-Fi products.

PLAY:1 A compact and powerful wireless speaker, the PLAY:1 delivers deep, rich and surprisingly big sound with its mid-woofer and tweeter despite its minimalist, petite design. Low-end sounds are powerful, while mids and highs are crisp and clear. Besides being connected to more than 100,000 free Internet radio stations, podcasts and shows, it lets you stream music from a variety of popular music services and your own smart devices.

PLAY:3 With the versatility to place it in a vertical or horizontal position thanks to its smart-directional design, the all-in-one Sonos player is ideal for any room where you want to play your music. It comes with three integrated speakers and three dedicated digital amplifiers to provide clear, wall-to-wall sound.

PLAYBAR With no need for a subwoofer or speaker wire, this wireless Hi-Fi system comes in a sleek, timeless look that easily fits into any room and setup. Its built-in sensors automatically adjust EQ and channel orientation so it can lie flat or mounted on the wall. Nine amplified speakers deliver rich sounds with clear details. Designed for easy setup and use, PLAYBAR connects to the TV with a single optical cable and plays everything connected to it.

EGG3

Lifestyle brand Egg3 is the exclusive distributor in Singapore for Scandinavian brand Norrmade. Retailing at Haus of Egg3, the pieces by Norrmade are simple and functional, ranging from stools and benches to storage pieces and racks. Norrmade's approach to design draws on nomadism – meaning to wander and to always be ready to move. Their creations are thus designed to be mobile and to fit into different settings. One of the pieces is the Pilgrim table. Comprising a handle at its side, it can be effortlessly moved to another room in the home when the need arises. But perhaps most striking is the Hang Sitt stool – a two-in-one piece that offers a place to sit and also features poles behind to carry fashion accessories or other knick-knacks.

BIO-HOME

bio-home's cleaning detergents are eco-friendly and easy to use at home. Made from 100 per cent renewable natural ingredients, the products do not contain phosphate, synthetic dyes, optical brighteners, EDTA, SLS, bleaching agents, phthalates or any cancer-causing agents. The concentrated formulas are derma-tested, ensuring greater value for the consumers, and are safe for the environment. Variants include laundry detergents (for regular and delicate fabrics), floor cleaner, multi-surface cleaner, dishwash liquid and kitchen cleaner. These products are available in the popular scents of lemongrass and green tea, and lavender and bergamot. The newly launched laundry detergents are available in the refreshing scent of hyacinth and nectarine.

REDEEM!

A bio-home sample pouch of eco-friendly cleaning products

To redeem, visit the bio-home Facebook page, www.facebook.com/biohomecares and tell us what you think about bio-home's cleaning detergents.

Redemption period: October – December 2015. While stocks last.

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

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Dunearn Court
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www.0932.am

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#01-98A/01-111
TradeHub 21
tel: 6795 0990
www.2form.com.sg

Amber
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www.brimdesign.com.sg

Darwin Interior
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tel: 6396 8558
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Distinct Identity
12 Arumugam Road
#01-02 Lion Building B
tel: 6846 0033
www.distinctidentity.com.sg

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www.hueconcept.com

HUE D
195 Pearl's Hill Terrace
#03-46
tel: 6557 0185
www.hue-d.com.sg

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#05-01 Centro Bianco
tel: 6753 3005
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Autoban Box Armchair from Dream

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tel: 6396 6672
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#02-09 Vertex Tower B
tel: 6348 7787
www.reztnrelax.com

Rob.Wynn Interior Design Studio
9004 Tampines Street 93
#03-76
www.robwynn.com.sg

SpaceOne Interior Design Consultancy
5 Purvis Street
#02-05 Talib Court
tel: 9686 0165
www.spaceoneid.com

The Orange Cube
14 Arumugam Road
#01-03 Lion Building C
tel: 6337 7277
www.theorangecube.com

The Scientist
706A Geylang Road
tel: 6743 0363
www.thescientist.com.sg

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Caesarstone
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tel: 6749 5228
www.cosimogallery.com.sg

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www.formica.com/en/sg

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Hansgrohe
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tel: 6884 5060
www.hansgrohe.com.sg

Hup Kiong
11 Defu Lane 9
tel: 6382 2626
www.hupkiong.com

Khind Systems
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LET'S TALK!

Tell us all about your renovation and furnishing preferences! We'd love to hear from you.

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Personal Details:

Name Age

Title *(Mr/Mrs/Mdm/Ms)

I/C No. Occupation

Phone (Home) (Mobile)

Email

Home Details:

☐ Current Home ☐ Recently Purchased (New) ☐ Recently Purchased (Resale)

Home Address Postal Code

Estimated Budget

No. of Adult Occupants

Expected Date of Key Collection (if Appropriate) Children (if any)

Do you require renovation loans? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, would you like to have a personal banker advise you on renovation loan matters? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Type of new home:

☐ HDB 1-2-Room ☐ HDB 3-Room ☐ HDB 4-Room ☐ HDB Executive / Maisonette ☐ Condominium

☐ Terrace ☐ Semi-detached ☐ Bungalow ☐ Others (Please specify)

Your preferred design style:

☐ Contemporary ☐ Retro/Vintage ☐ Resort ☐ Minimalist ☐ Industrial

☐ Victorian/Baroque ☐ Scandinavian ☐ Modern Asian

Tick which area of advice you require:

☐ Space planning ☐ Flooring ☐ Paint ☐ Laminates/other surfaces ☐ Entertainment appliances

☐ Soft furnishings ☐ Furniture ☐ Sanitary wares ☐ Kitchen appliances

Which are your trusted brands for these home products: (Please fill in every section)

Flooring: Paint:

Furniture: Home accessories:

Kitchen appliances: Entertainment appliances:

Bathroom sanitary wares: Online retailers/others:

What are your reason/s for buying from these brands?

☐ Design ☐ Price ☐ Free delivery ☐ Reliability ☐ Customer service

☐ Variety ☐ Quality

Which section/s do you like best in SquareRooms?

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☐ ProAds ☐ Shortcut

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SEP ISSUE 125

HOOK **UP**

An unused space becomes useful with a giant pegboard

TEXT Ho Pei Ying **PHOTO** John Lewis

Make the most of an odd corner in your home by installing a pegboard there. Have it reach all the way to the ceiling so you can tap on underutilised vertical space. Then, add knobs and fill it with accessories or other miscellany. To minimise clutter, catch-all baskets help to keep things organised.

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